

NO. 1

Nintendo®

COMICS SYSTEM™

FEATURING EXCLUSIVE
SCENES FROM THE
HOTTEST GAME EVER!

**SUPER
MARIO
BROS.**

3

Plus

The Legend of
ZELDA

Captain N

**GAME
MASTER**

*And
more!*

VALIANT™



Official
Nintendo
Licensed Product



WELCOME!
COME ON IN!



Comics for Nintendo players!

Now there's an idea! They'd have to be fast-paced. Intelligent. Sophisticated. Literate. Intriguing. Involving. Funny.

Why?

Because Nintendo players are smart, discerning, tasteful people, with a sense of humor.

Lots of companies would have loved to have published comics for Nintendo players. But the nice people at Nintendo picked us—VALIANT. They thought we'd do the best job. We will.

So here it is, the moment we've all been waiting for. Welcome to *Nintendo Comics System #1*.

Please let us know what you think. Is this the moment you've all been waiting for? Got any comments? Suggestions? Ideas? Write to: Voyager Communications Inc., 132 West 21st Street, New York, NY 10011.

And, from all of us at VALIANT, the comics publishing part of Voyager Communications Inc., thanks for being along on this, our first "voyage."

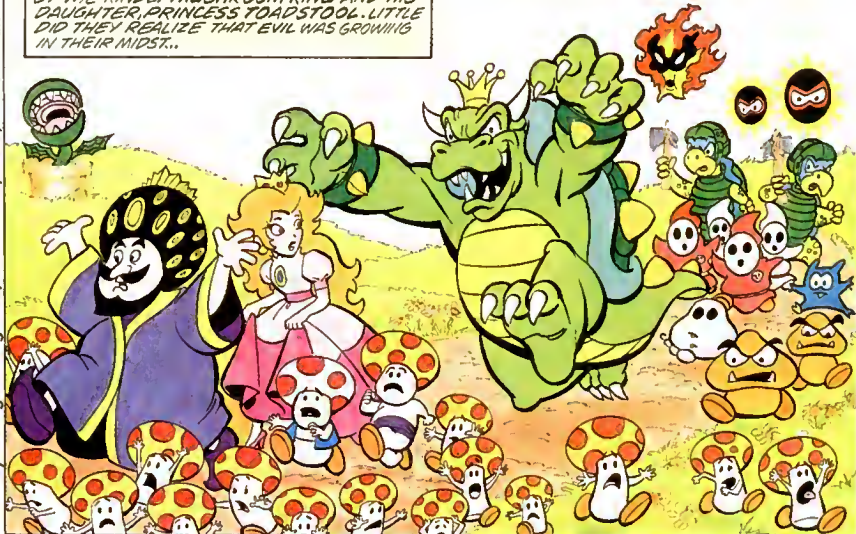


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THE LEGEND

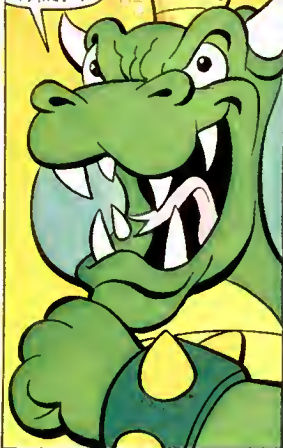
FAR BEYOND THE WORLD WE KNOW LIES THE MAGICAL MUSHROOM KINGDOM. THERE, THE MUSHROOM PEOPLE LIVED IN PEACE, RULED BY THE KINDLY MUSHROOM KING AND HIS DAUGHTER, PRINCESS TOADSTOOL. LITTLE DID THEY REALIZE THAT EVIL WAS GROWING IN THEIR MIDST...

THE FREEDOM-LOVING FUNGI WERE MENACED BY THE FORCES OF TYRANNY!



THE BIGGEST TROUBLEMAKER WAS A REVOLTING REPTILE AND A DESPICABLE DESPOT-- THAT CALLOUS, COLD-BLOODED CREEP, KING BOWSER KOOPA.

WHO WERE YOU EXPECTING? THE TOOTH FAIRY?



TOAD, THE ROYAL MUSHROOM RETAINER, WONDERED... "WHO WOULD SAVE THE KINGDOM?"

GOOD QUESTION, HUH?



THE KIND, GENTLE, DEMURE PRINCESS TOADSTOOL CALLED FOR HELP.

HELP! HELP!

AND STEP ON IT, OKAY?

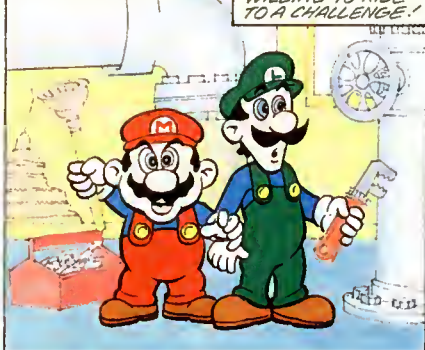


FORTUNATELY, WORD REACHED THE EARS OF TWO HEROIC CHAMPIONS OF GOODNESS AND RIGHT. TWO MEN WHO HUNGERED FOR JUSTICE AND THIRSTED FOR FREEDOM.



MARIO, A MAN OF GREAT COURAGE AND DETERMINATION.

AND HIS BROTHER LUIGI WHO, THOUGH SHY, WAS ALWAYS WILLING TO RISE TO A CHALLENGE.



THIS IS WHERE THE LEGEND ENDS AND THE ADVENTURE BEGINS. THE SUPER MARIO BROTHERS DEFEATED THE FORCES OF EVIL...



HOWEVER, KING KOOPA WASN'T GOING TO TAKE DEFEAT LYING DOWN.

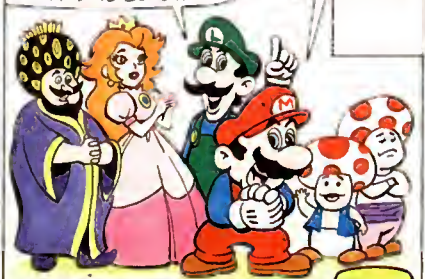
PLUNGED INTO DESPAIR BY A PAIR OF PLUMBERS, ALL MY EVIL PLANS FLUSHED DOWN THE DRAIN. BUT, I'LL GET THEM FOR THIS.



OUR HEROES KNEW THAT, JUST LIKE WATER IN A CLOGGED SINK, THE CALL FOR HELP WOULD RISE AGAIN.

REMEMBER, THE BEST LAID PIPES OF MUSHROOMS AND MEN ARE BOUND IN TIME TO BURST.

BUT, IN THE MEANTIME, WHEN DO WE EAT?



GAME OVER

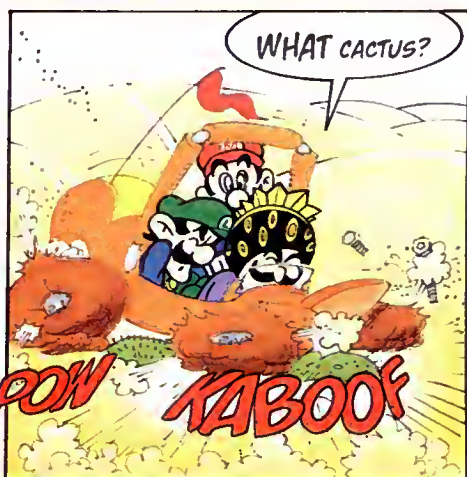
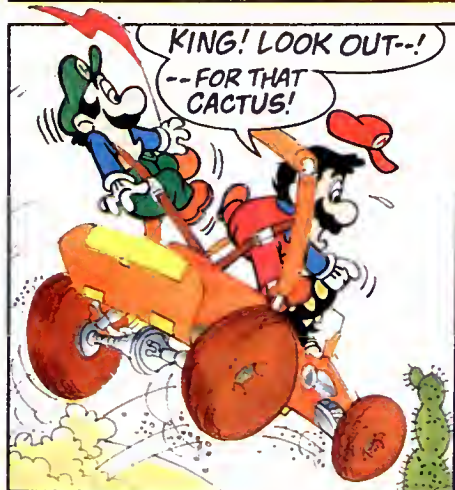
SUPER MARIO BROS.

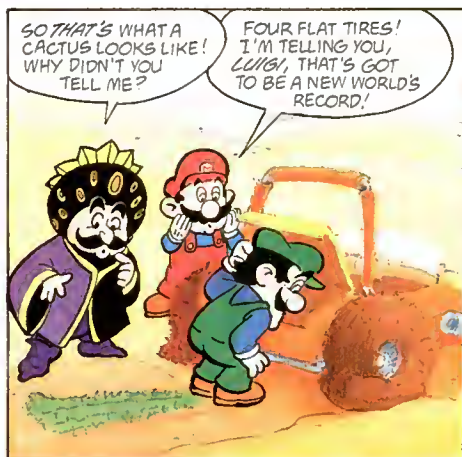
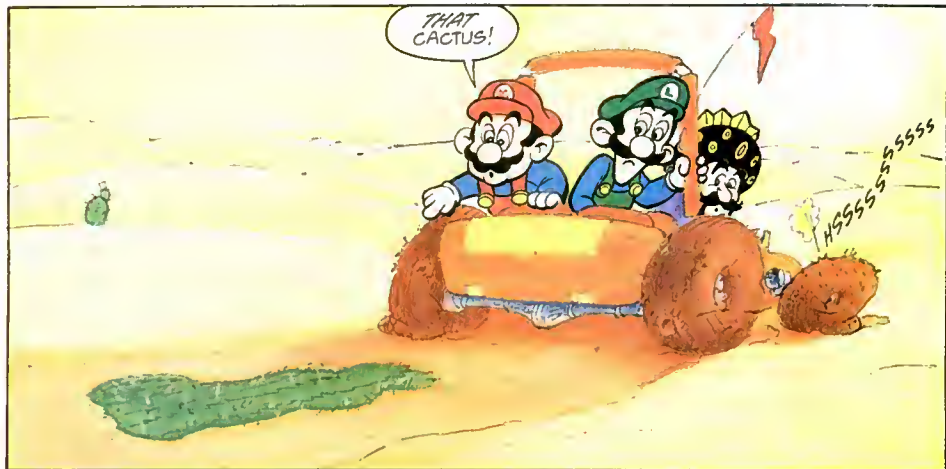
JUST DESERTS

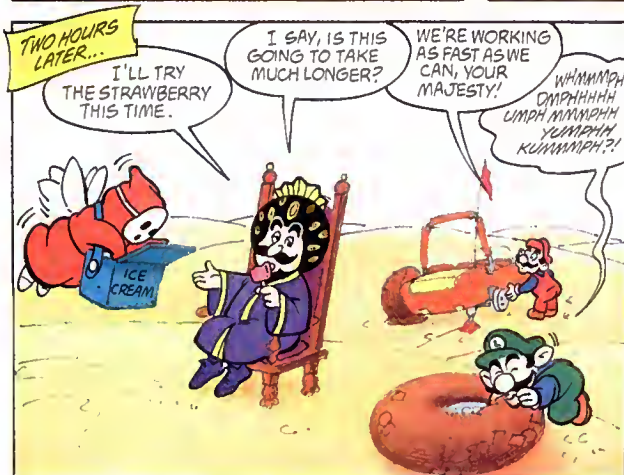
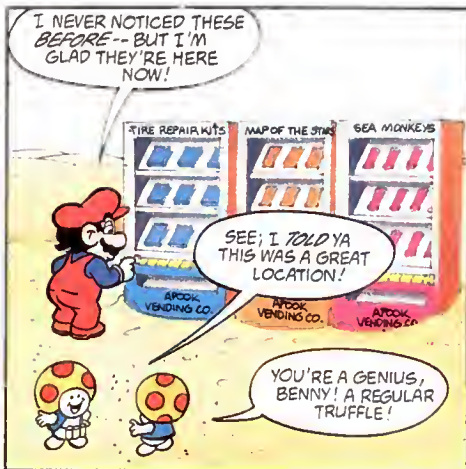
YAAAAHHH!

YAHOO!! I
HAVEN'T HAD
THIS MUCH FUN
SINCE I WAS
KNEE-HIGH TO
A TOADSTOOL!

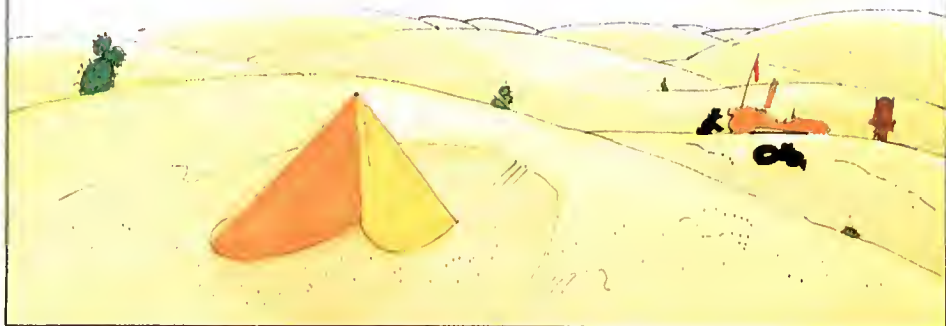
BETTER TIGHTEN
YOUR SEATBELTS,
BOYS! WE'RE IN FOR
A BUMPY LANDING!







THE MARIO BROS. ARE HAVING SUCH A GOOD TIME THAT THEY FAIL TO NOTICE THE TINY GOLDEN PYRAMID SPROUTING FROM THE DESERT SANDS...

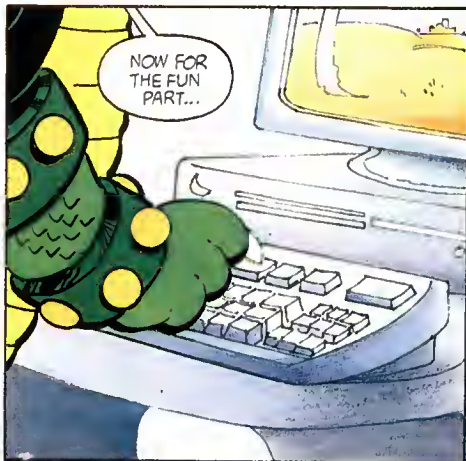


AND FAR BELOW, KING KOOPA, DREAD ENEMY OF NICENESS, SCHEMES AND CHORTLES...

HOT DOG!
THIS FORTRESS
WAS WORTH
EVERY KOOPABIT!

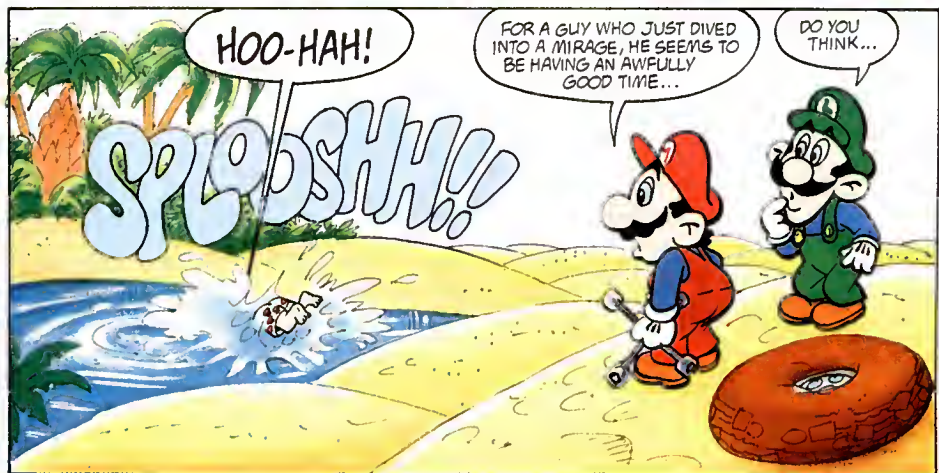
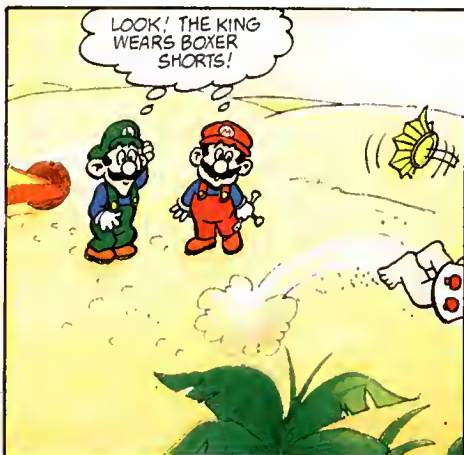
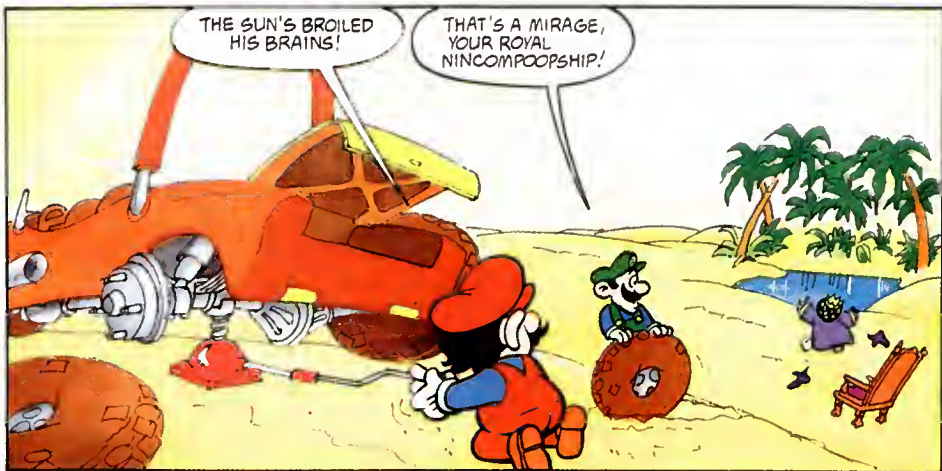


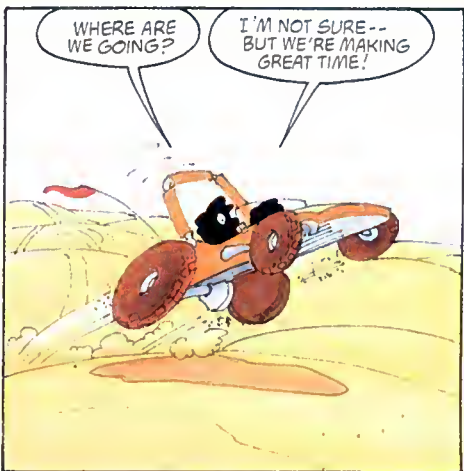
NOW FOR
THE FUN
PART...

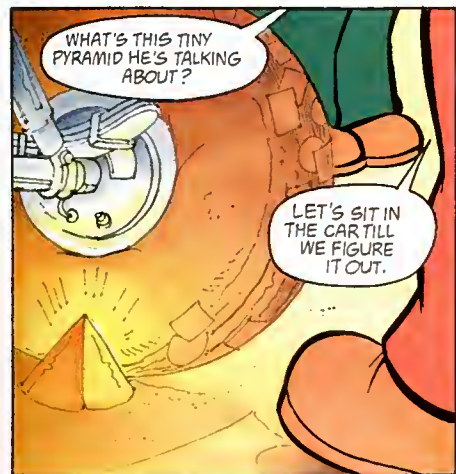
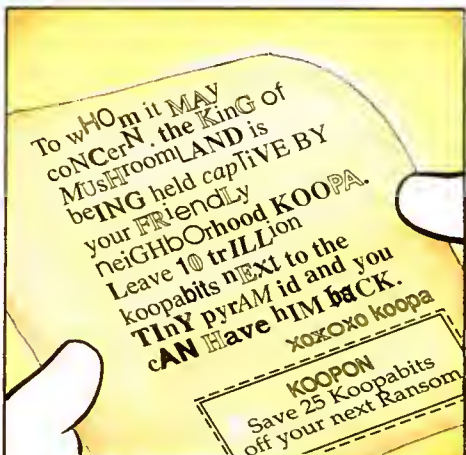
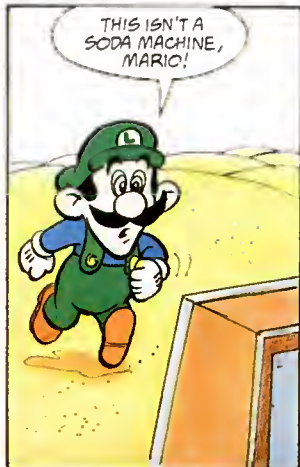
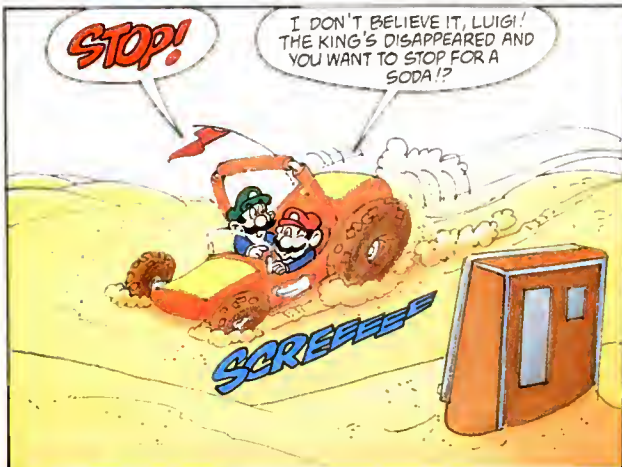


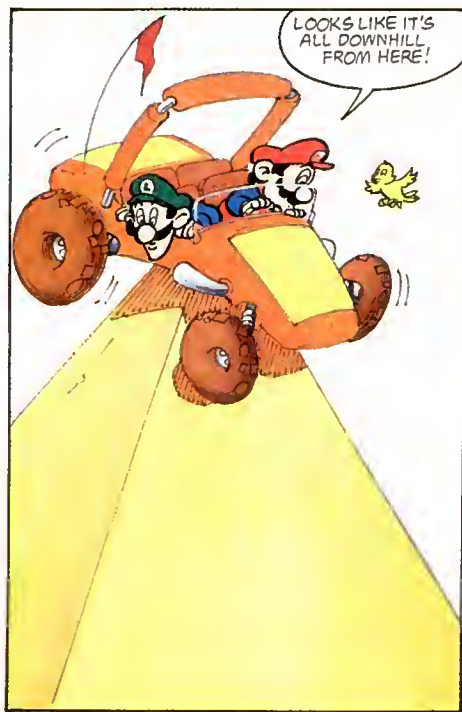
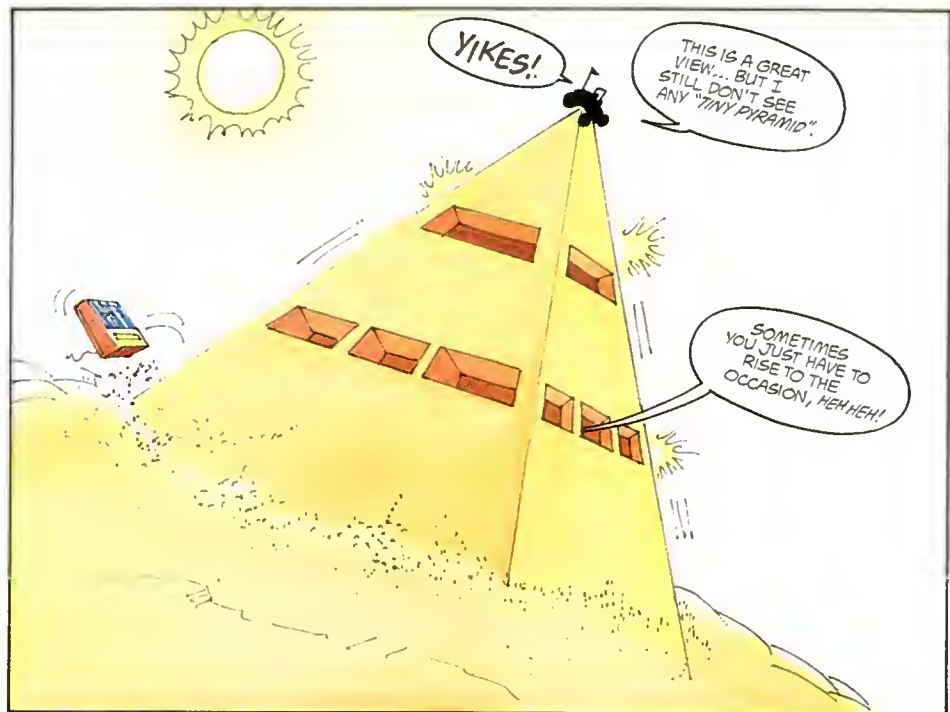
I SAY, BOYS!
ANYBODY FOR A
QUICK DIP?

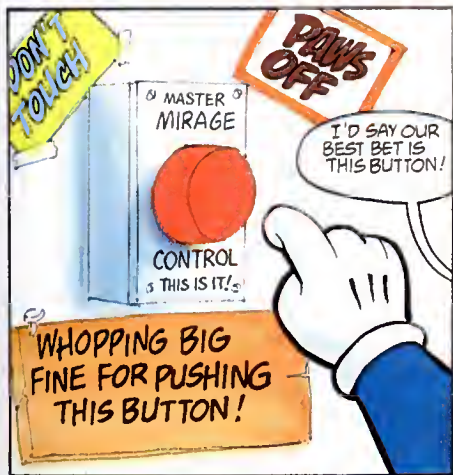
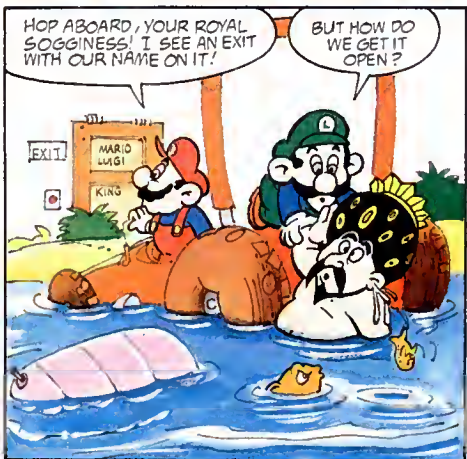
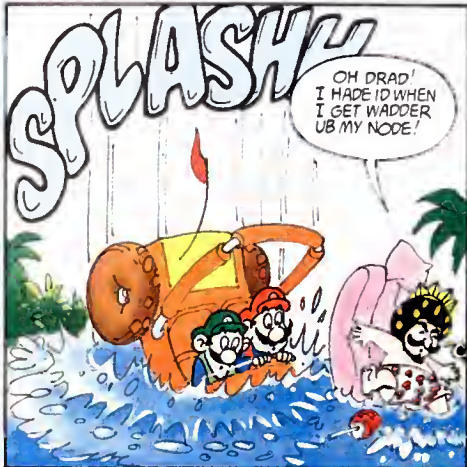
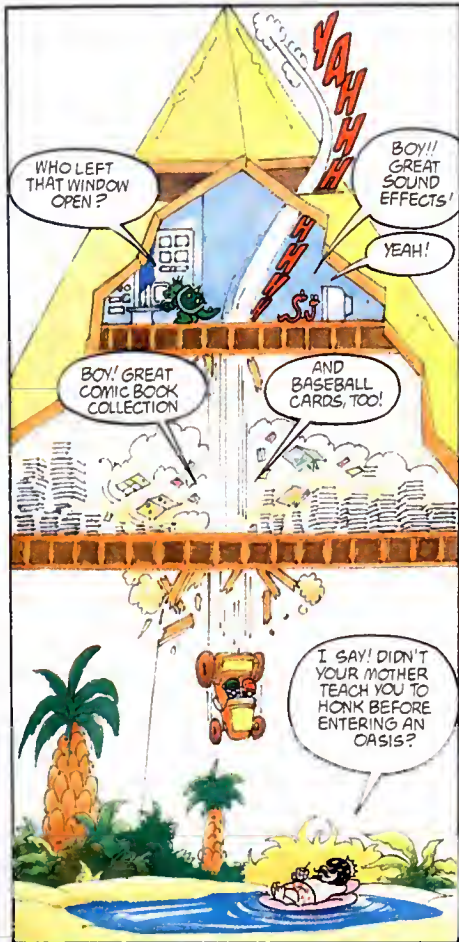


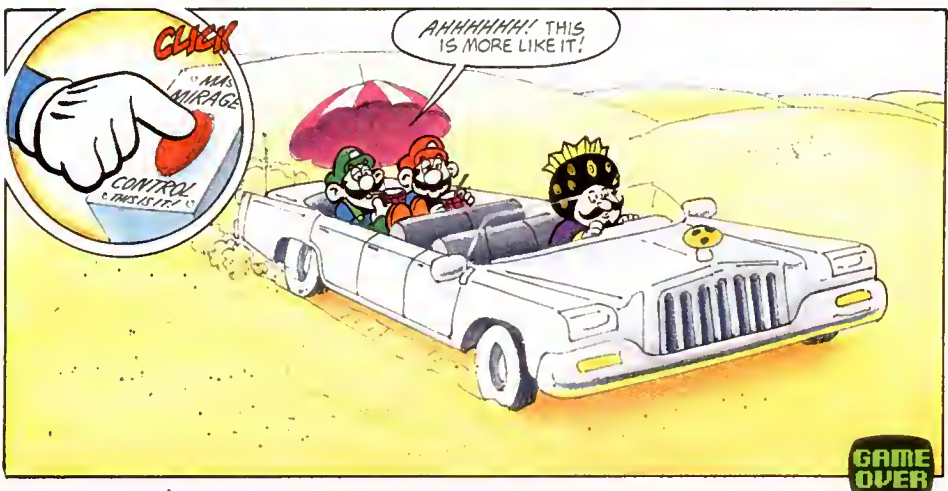
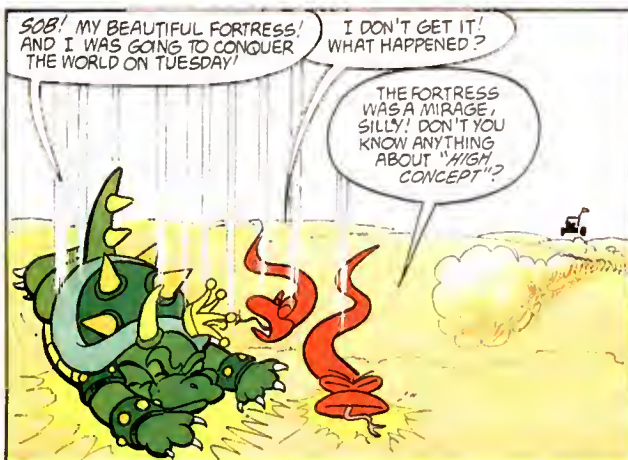
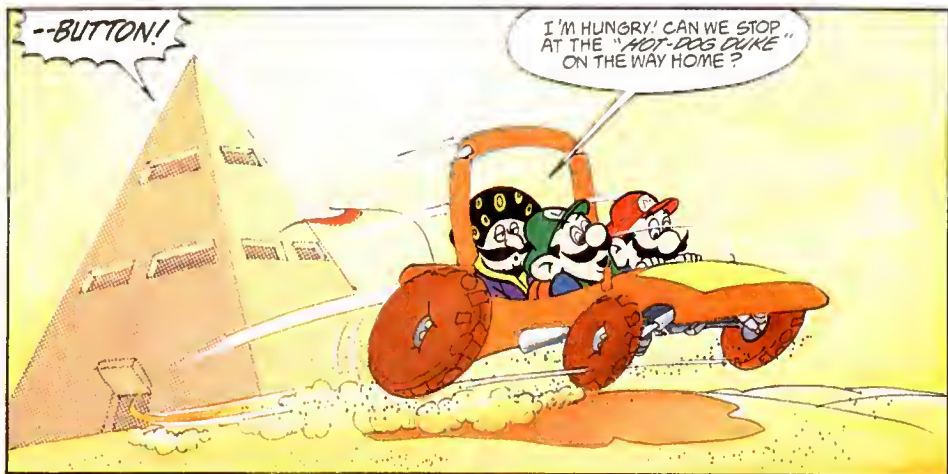








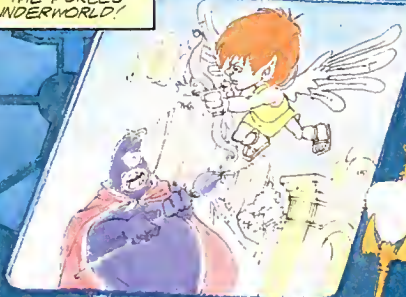




GAME OVER

WELCOME TO VIDEOLAND

HERE, KID ICARUS FLIES AGAINST THE FORCES OF THE UNDERWORLD!



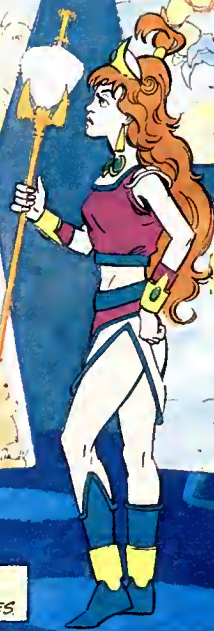
HERE, SPACE HUNTER SAMUS ARAN BATTLES THE HORDES OF METROID.



HERE, LITTLE MAC PUNCHES OUT HIS OPPONENTS ON HIS WAY TO THE TITLE!



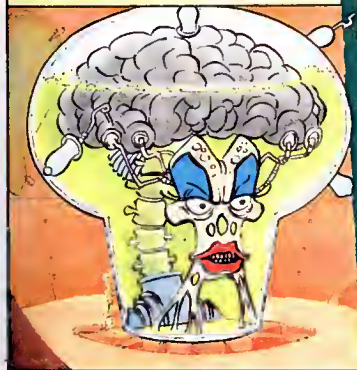
AND HERE, THE BEAUTIFUL PRINCESS LANIA RULES THE PALACE OF POWER IN THE ABSENCE OF HER FATHER, GOOD KING CHARLES.



ONCE, THERE WAS A BALANCE TO ALL THINGS IN VIDEOLAND. FOR EACH WORLD THERE WAS A HERO. AND FOR EACH HERO, AN ARCH-VILLAIN.

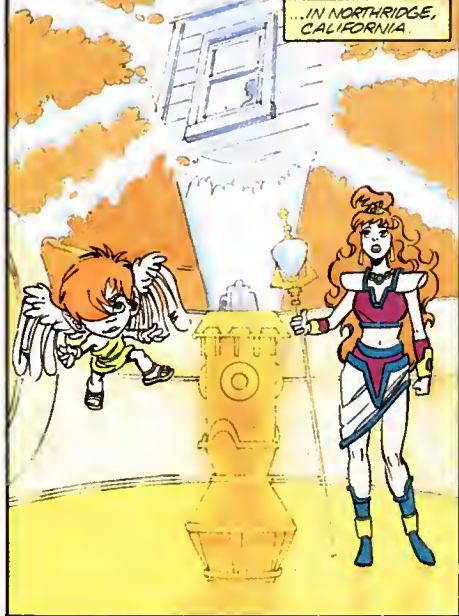
MOTHER BRAIN CHANGED ALL THAT, BY UNITING THE FORCES OF EVIL ON ALL WORLDS TO FORM A SINGLE DEADLY ALLIANCE THAT NOTHING COULD STOP!

ON THAT DAY, THE LEAGUE OF DARKNESS WAS BORN.

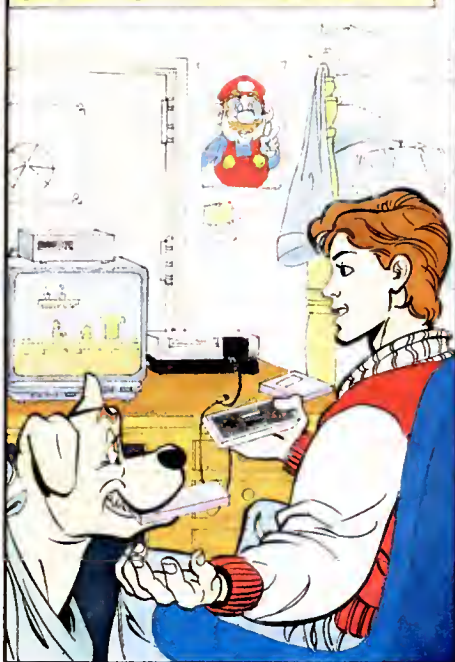


MOTHER BRAIN HAD TIPPED THE BALANCE OF POWER. A CHAMPION WAS NEEDED TO UNITE THE FORCES OF LIGHT. THE ULTIMATE WARP ZONE FOUND HIM...

...IN NORTHBRIDGE, CALIFORNIA.



KEVIN KEENE THE HOTTEST NINTENDO POWER PLAYER ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH!



KEVIN ALONE HAD THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE VIDEO GAME WORLD NEEDED TO DEFEAT MOTHER BRAIN. KEVIN WOULD NO LONGER BE JUST ANOTHER HIGH SCHOOL KID. HE WAS NOW...



Captain N
GAME
MANAGER

WELCOME TO VIDEO LAND, KEVIN. WHERE THE GAMES ARE REAL AND THE FATE OF THE UNIVERSE IS IN YOUR HANDS.



FROM THE PALACE OF POWER TO MOUNT OLYMPUS--! FROM METROID TO KONGOLAND--! THROUGHOUT THE MANY WORLDS OF VIDEO LAND, ALL THAT STANDS AGAINST MOTHER BRAIN AND THE FEARSOME LEAGUE OF DARKNESS IS A DARING BAND OF HEROES, THE N-TEAM, AND THEIR GREATEST CHAMPION...

Captain N

THE
**GAME
MASTER**

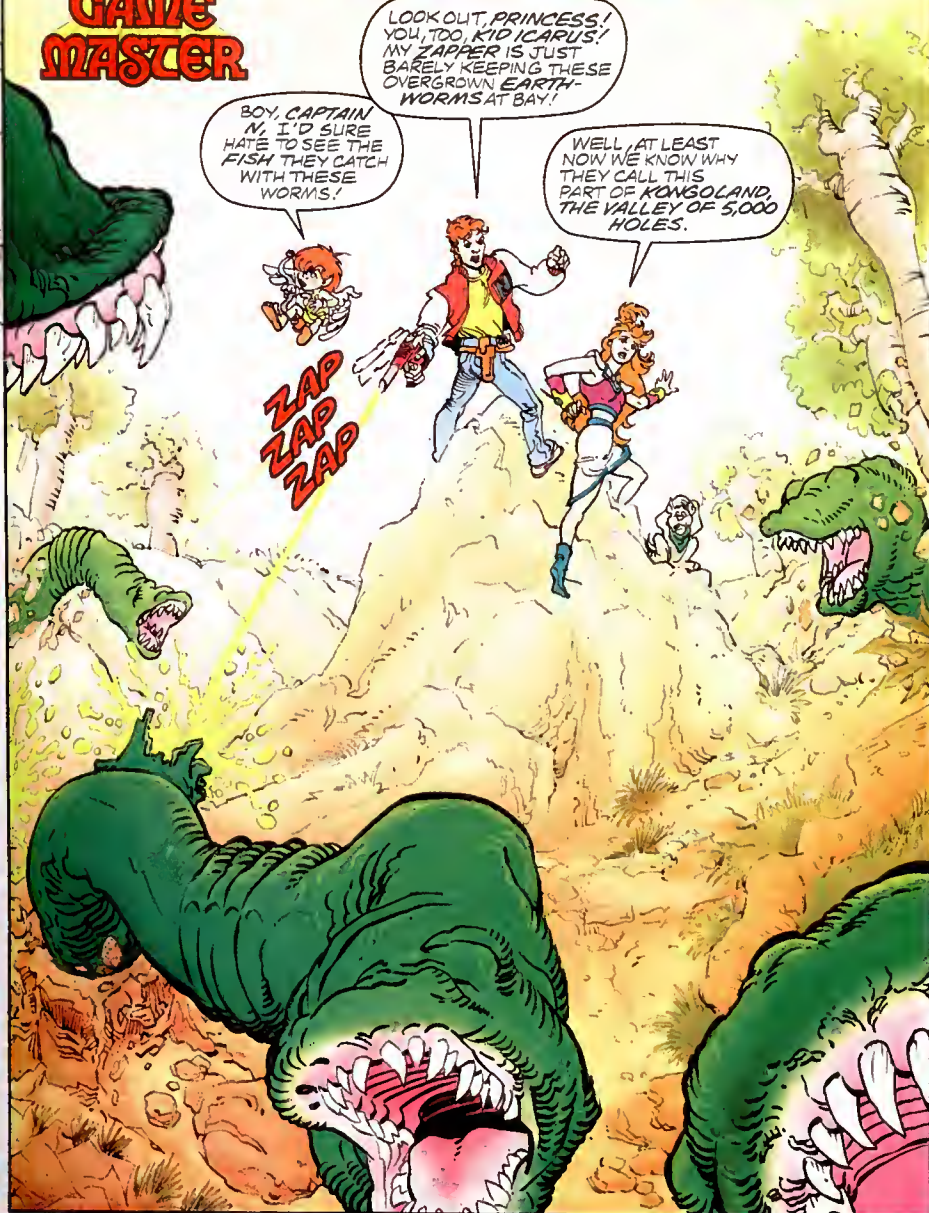
ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS SWELL

BOY, CAPTAIN N, I'D SURE HATE TO SEE THE FISH THEY CATCH WITH THESE WORMS!

LOOK OUT, PRINCESS! YOU, TOO, KID ICARUS! MY ZAPPER IS JUST BARELY KEEPING THESE OVERGROWN EARTH-WORMS AT BAY!

WELL, AT LEAST NOW WE KNOW WHY THEY CALL THIS PART OF KONGOLAND, THE VALLEY OF 5,000 HOLES.

**ZAP
ZAP
ZAP**



SO WHAT ARE WE DOING HERE, ANYWAY? YOU HUSTLED US THROUGH A **WARP PORTAL** SO FAST YOU DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO TELL US WHERE WE'RE GOING.

I'M HURRYING BECAUSE I THINK I'VE FOUND THE KEY TO WINNING THE WAR WITH THE LEAGUE OF DARKNESS ONCE AND FOR ALL.



ZAP ZAP

LOOK! A CLEARING STRAIGHT AHEAD

WE MADE IT, AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE **WORMS** WON'T COME IN HERE.

BUT THEY'VE GOT US **SURROUNDED**.

GOOD THINKING, CAPTAIN. YOU'VE GOT US RIGHT WHERE THEY WANT US.



AT LEAST I'VE BOUGHT US A FEW MOMENTS TO THINK.

YOU MEAN TO THINK ABOUT BEING EATEN.

WHY DON'T YOU EXPLAIN WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE, CAPTAIN N?

I WAS GOING THROUGH SOME ANCIENT SCROLLS I FOUND IN THE **PALACE OF POWER** AND I FOUND THE STORY OF THE **WELL OF DESPAIR**. THE SCROLL SAID THE GREATEST WEAPON OF ALL COULD BE FOUND AT THE **BOTTOM OF THE WELL**.

DON'T YOU SEE? THIS IS MY **BIG CHANCE** TO BEAT **MOTHERBRAIN** AND HER LEAGUE OF DARKNESS. WE CAN FREE ALL OF **VIDEOLAND** AND IT'LL ALL BE OVER IN NO TIME.

KEVIN, I'VE HEARD OF THAT WELL AND ITS LEGENDARY WEAPON, BUT I DON'T THINK THIS IS A GOOD IDEA. ANY WEAPON THAT POWERFUL COULD DO UNTOLED HARM IF IT GOT OUT OF CONTROL.

BUT, PRINCESS, DON'T YOU WANT TO WIN THE BATTLE? DON'T YOU WANT TO SEE YOUR FATHER AGAIN?

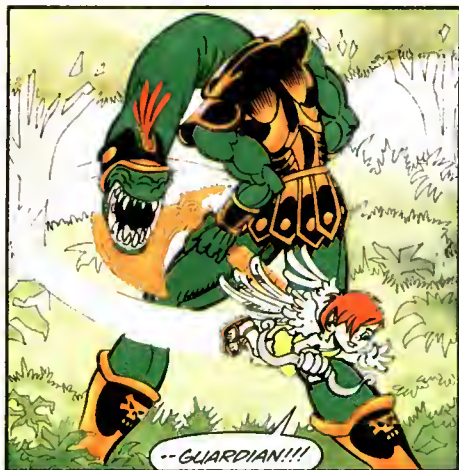
OF COURSE, BUT...



ASSUMING WE FIND THE PLACE, I HOPE YOU KNOW THAT MOST OF THESE LEGENDARY WELLS HAVE A BIG NASTY...

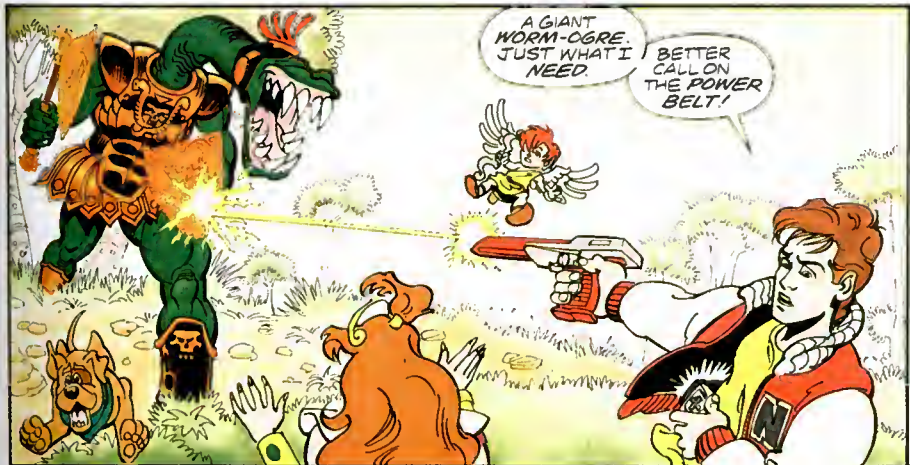


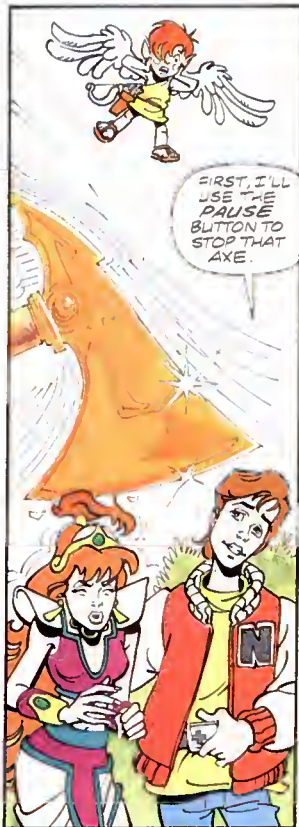
UHHH, BIG...
UH... NASTY--



A GIANT
WORM-OGRE.
JUST WHAT I
NEED.

BETTER
CALL ON
THE POWER
BELT!

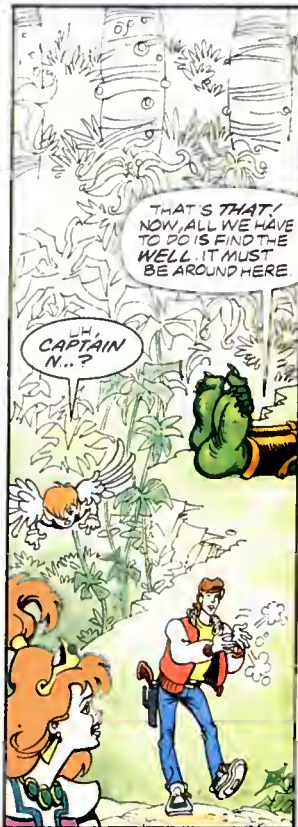




FIRST, I'LL
USE THE
PAUSE
BUTTON TO
STOP THAT
AXE.

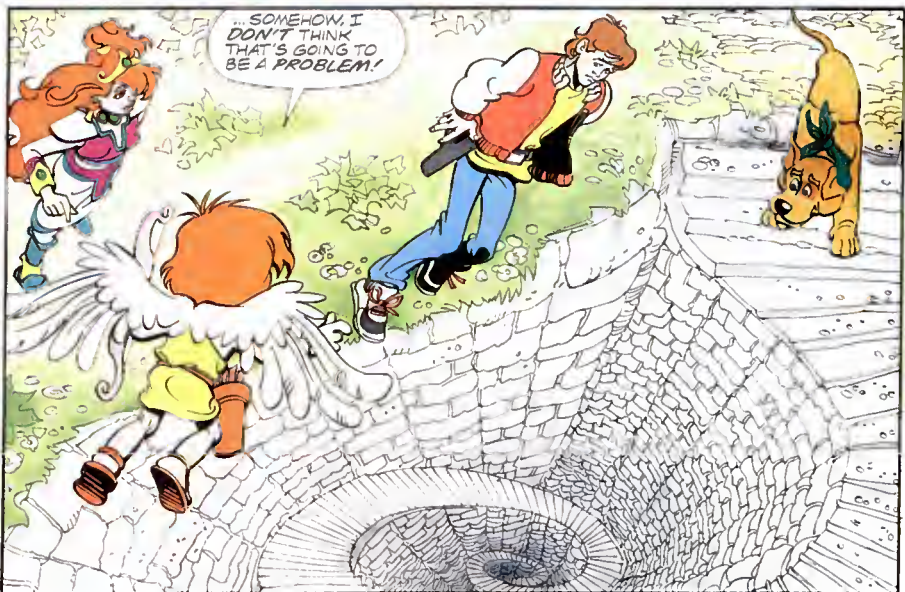


THEN, A QUICK SHIFT
AND A PUNCH TO
SHOW THIS THUG
WHO'S BOSS

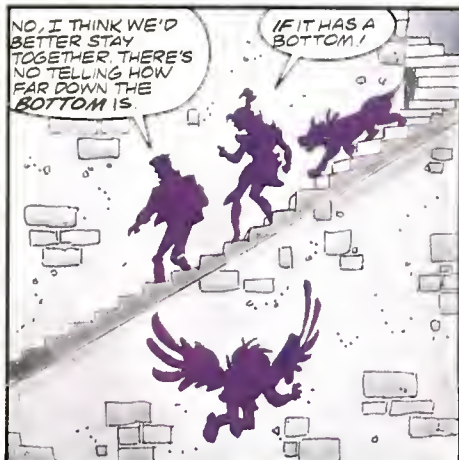


THAT'S THAT!
NOW, ALL WE HAVE
TO DO IS FIND THE
WELL. IT MUST
BE AROUND HERE

WHY
CAPTAIN
N...?



...SOMEHOW, I
DON'T THINK
THAT'S GOING TO
BE A PROBLEM!



THE TOAD-IMPS!
I FORGOT THAT
THEY LIVE IN
WELLS.

THEY'RE BLOCKING
OUR PATH. MAYBE WE
BETTER RETREAT.

HISS
HISS

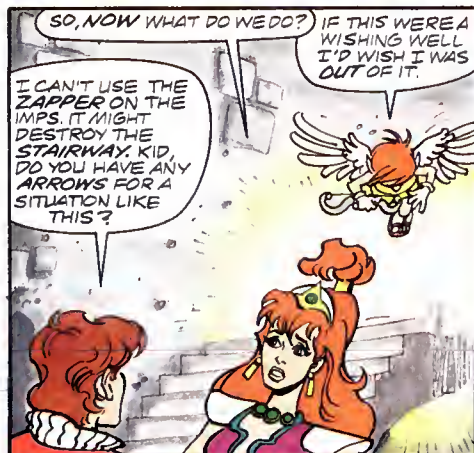
CROAK
CROAK

RUFF RUFF

SO, NOW WHAT DO WE DO?

IF THIS WERE A
WISHING WELL
I'D WISH I WAS
OUT OF IT.

I CAN'T USE THE
ZAPPER ON THE
IMPS. IT MIGHT
DESTROY THE
STAIRWAY. KID,
DO YOU HAVE ANY
ARROWS FOR A
SITUATION LIKE
THIS?



I DON'T THINK SO, CAPTAIN.
THE STAIRS HAVE BEEN
DISAPPEARING BEHIND US
AS WE GO DEEPER.

UH-OH...



NOW THAT YOU
MENTION IT,
MAYBE I DO.



YOUR ARROWS DIDN'T DO
ANY GOOD, KID. YOU JUST
MADE THEM MORE
ANGRY!

YOUP!

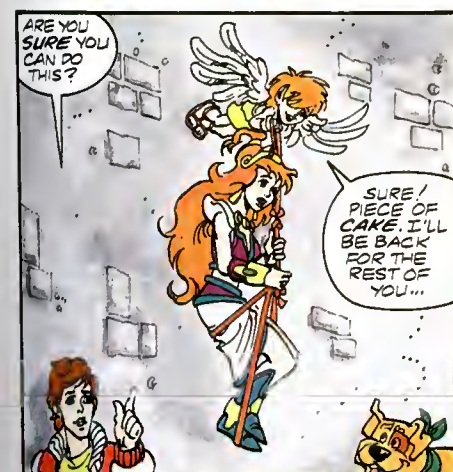
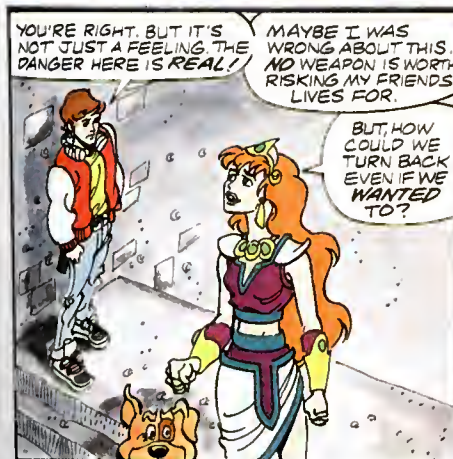
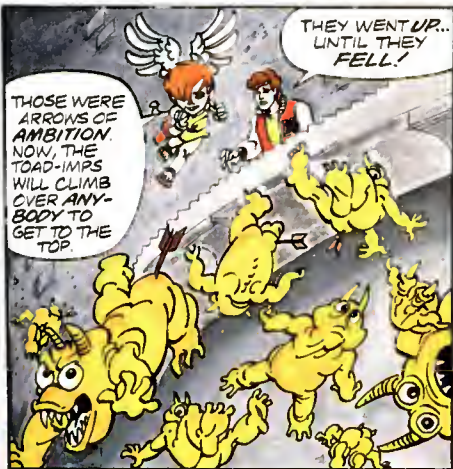
CROAK!

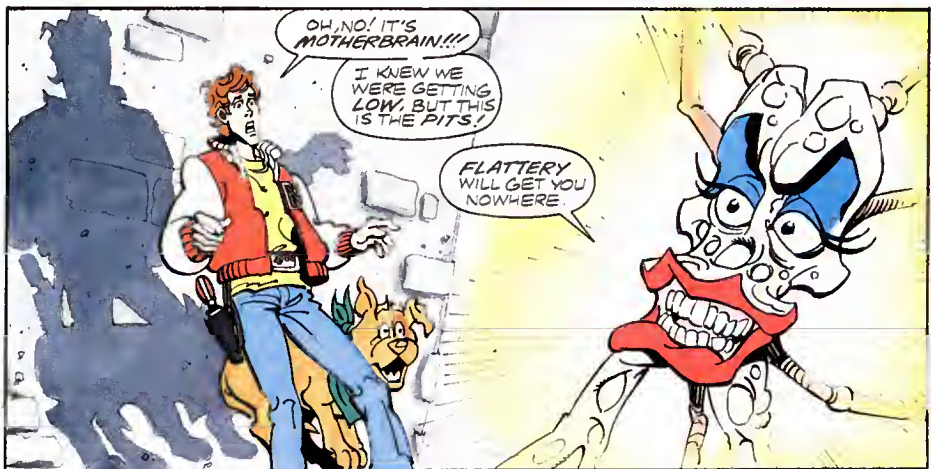
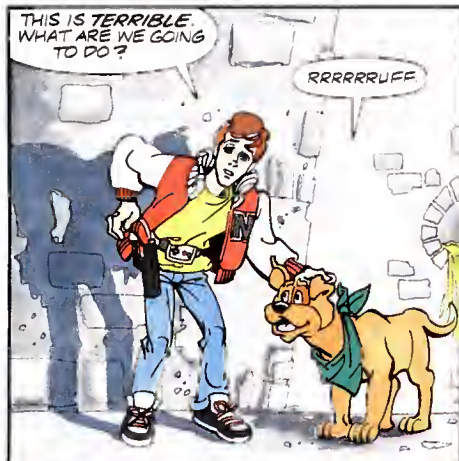
OOP!



WAIT, PRINCESS--! THEY RAN RIGHT BY US
AND NOW THEY'RE PUSHING EACH OTHER
OFF THE TOP OF THE STAIRS!







I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME TO GET HERE, BUT FIRST, ALLOW ME TO RID US OF THIS FOUR-LEGGED FLEA-TAXI.

DUKE!

KIHIII-
YYYIII!

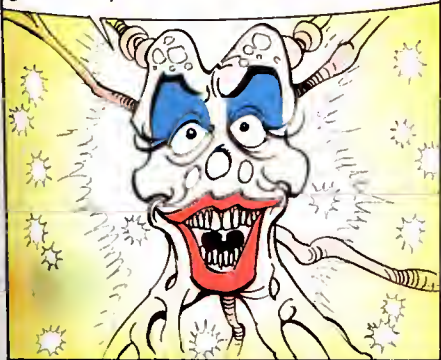


YOU CLAMMY CLUMP OF CRUMMY CABLES--! YOU GIVE ME BACK MY DOG.



OHhhh, I'M AFRAID IF YOU WANT YOUR DOG, YOU'LL HAVE TO JUMP IN AFTER HIM.

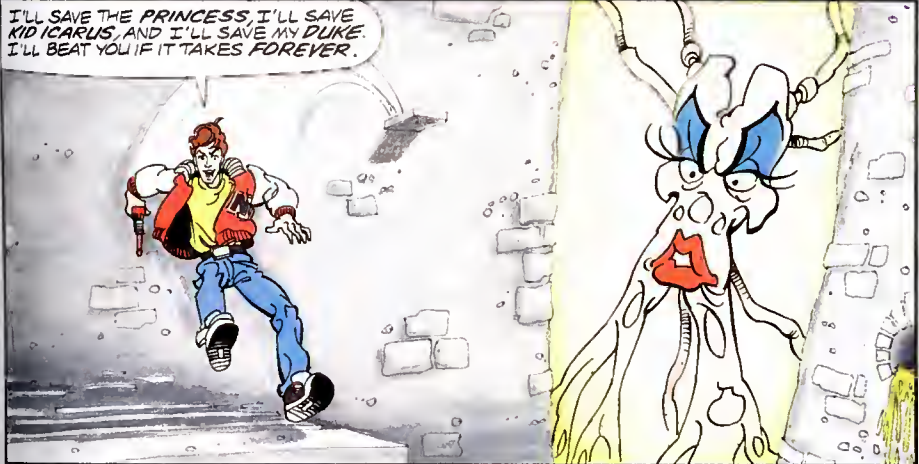
YOU SEE, ONCE YOU ENTER THE WELL OF DESPAIR, THERE'S NO WAY OUT. YOU JUST SPIRAL DOWN FOREVER BECAUSE THIS WELL HAS NO BOTTOM. IT'S THE ULTIMATE TRAP, CAPTAIN N, AND YOU'LL NEVER ESCAPE IT.



WRONG, MOTHERBRAIN. I'LL NEVER GIVE UP. I DON'T CARE HOW DEEP THIS WELL IS. I DON'T CARE HOW MANY DANGERS YOU THROW IN MY WAY.



I'LL SAVE THE PRINCESS, I'LL SAVE KID ICARUS, AND I'LL SAVE MY DUKE. I'LL BEAT YOU IF IT TAKES FOREVER.



ZAP!

WE'RE BACK
OUTSIDE THE
WELL!

THANK
GOODNESS!

THANK
ZEUS!

BUT, WAIT A
MINUTE!
WHERE'S
MOTHER-
BRAIN? AND
HOW DID YOU
GET OUT OF
THAT
BOTTOMLESS
PIT?

RUFF
RUFF!

PERHAPS
I CAN
EXPLAIN.

I AM THE **GUARDIAN OF THE WELL**. YOU SAW
ME BEFORE AS A WORM-OGRE, BUT THIS IS MY
TRUE FORM. MOTHERBRAIN IS GONE. YOU
DEFEATED HER WHEN YOU SHOWED **COURAGE**,
EVEN AT THE BRINK OF DESPAIR. THAT IS THE
TEST OF THE WELL, AND YOU **PASSED**.

BY THE WAY,
CAPTAIN N, YOU
PACK A MEAN
LEFT HOOK.

THEN, **COURAGE**
IS THE GREAT
WEAPON TO BE
FOUND IN THE
WELL?

AH, NO! **COURAGE** IS THE
KEY, AND KEVIN SHOWED
PLENTY OF THAT. BUT THE
GREATEST WEAPON OF ALL
IS **PATIENCE**. THAT IS
THE SECRET TO BE FOUND
IN THE WELL, THAT
**PERSISTENCE WILL ALWAYS
TRIUMPH OVER DESPAIR**.

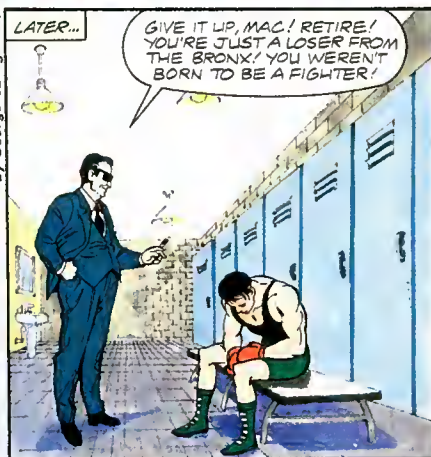
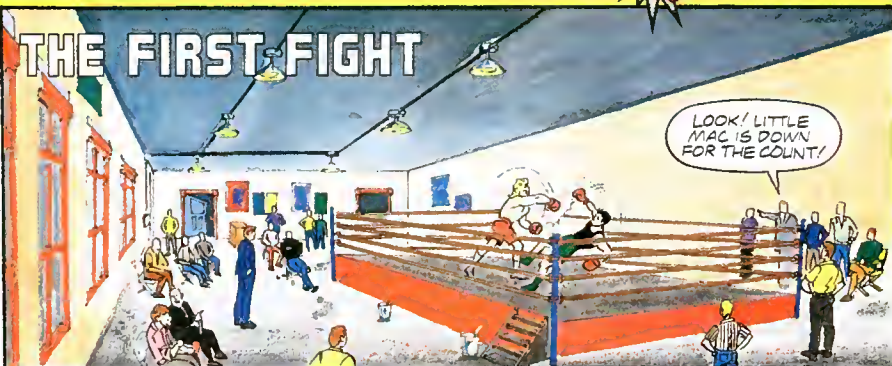
SO, ALL THINGS
COME TO HE WHO
WAITS?

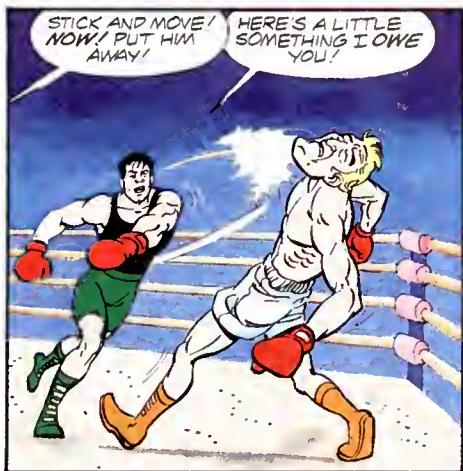
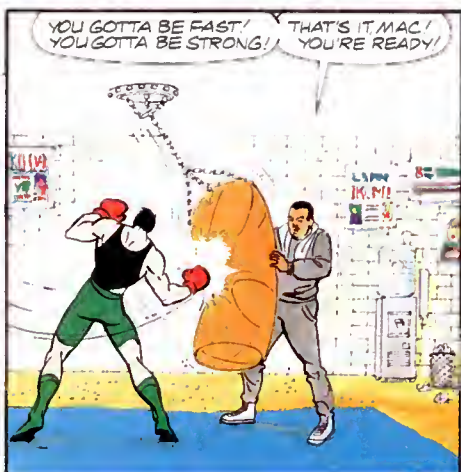
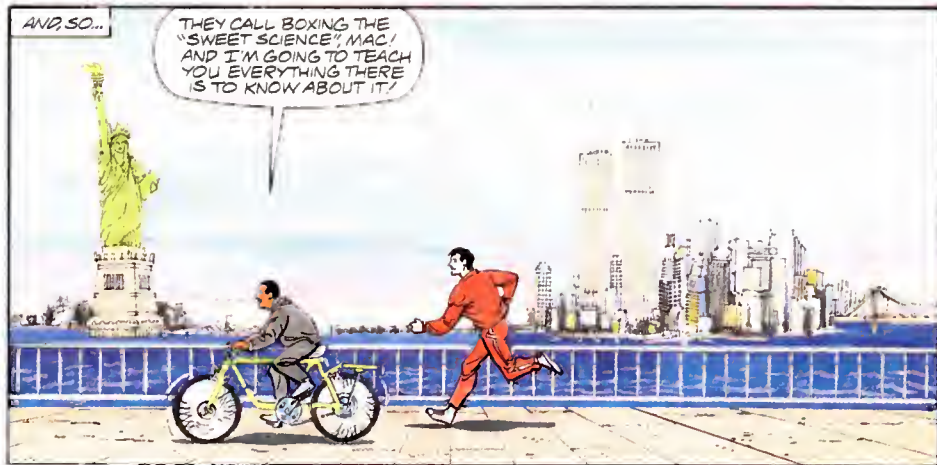
WHAT A **CLEVER** WAY OF
PUTTING IT! ALLOW ME TO
SHOW YOU THE WAY
HOME

CAPTAIN N, DOES
THIS MEAN THAT
VICTORY MUST
WAIT UNTIL ITS
TIME?

WHY NOT? AFTER
ALL, **VIDEO LAND**
WASN'T BUILT IN
A DAY!

**GAME
OVER**





IN THE "SWEET SCIENCE" CALLED BOXING, IT'S A HARD CLIMB TO THE TOP! ASK A LITTLE GUY WITH A BIG HEART FROM THE BRONX, NEW YORK... HIS NAME IS MAC.

PUNCH-OUT!! "OUTSIDERS"

MONDAY NIGHT IN THE WORLD VIDEO BOXING ASSOCIATION ARENA IN TOKYO, JAPAN...

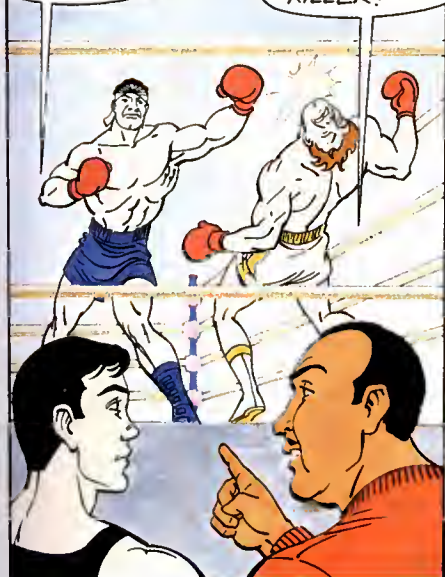
--28 YEAR OLD HOMETOWN HERO PISTON HONDA, THE WYBA MINOR CIRCUIT CHAMPION, DELIVERS ANOTHER PUNISHING BLOW TO THE JAW OF KID TYPHOON!

IT LOOKS LIKE PISTON WILL BE ADDING ANOTHER KNOCK-OUT TO HIS IMPRESSIVE RECORD OF 25 VICTORIES IN 26 MATCHES!

MEANWHILE, AT RINGSIDE, LITTLE MAC AND HIS TRAINER, DOC LEWIS WATCH THIS AWESOME DISPLAY!

HE'S A BRUTAL FIGHTER, DOC!

HES NO FIGHTER, MAC... HES A KILLER!



TUESDAY
MORNING...

INSIDE THE VAST SPORTS ARENA, MAC IS LOST...

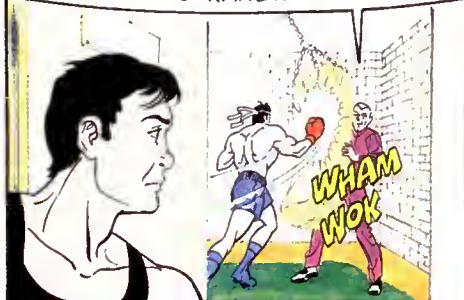
MY DRESSING
ROOM WAS
SOMEWHERE
AROUND HERE...

WHAM
POW

I FOUGHT
VERY WELL,
EH, SENSEI*?

*SENSEI? THAT'S "COACH" IN JAPANESE... SORT OF

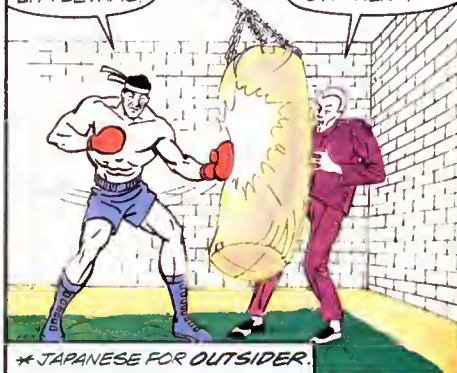
AS ALWAYS, YOUR SKILL AND POWER BRING
ME GREAT HONOR, PISTON-SAN*. THE
PRIZE MONEY YOU WON LAST NIGHT WILL
BUILD A NEW HOSPITAL IN THE POOR VILLAGE
OF KAN'JI.



* IN JAPAN, YOU ADD "SAN" TO SOMEONE'S NAME
TO SHOW RESPECT. TRY IT ON YOUR FRIENDS.

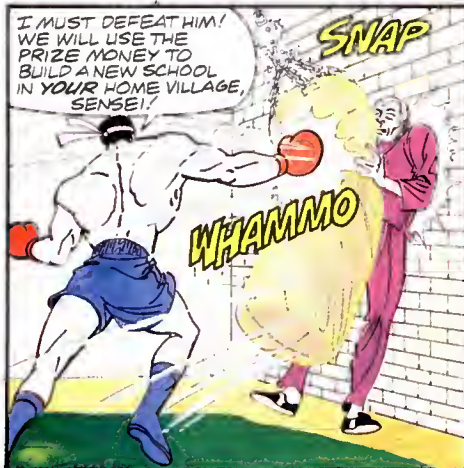
IN THREE DAYS
I FIGHT THE
GANTIN*
LITTLE MAC!

MAC IS THE
#1 CONTENDER!
A FORMIDABLE
OPPONENT!



* JAPANESE FOR OUTSIDER.

I MUST DEFEAT HIM!
WE WILL USE THE
PRIZE MONEY TO
BUILD A NEW SCHOOL
IN YOUR HOME VILLAGE,
SENSEI!

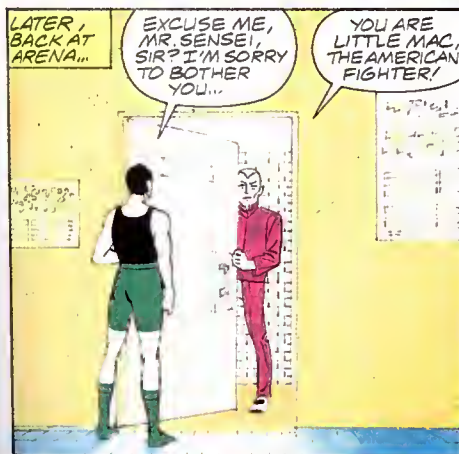


THIS LITTLE
MAC IS
DOOMED!

I'LL SEND
HIM A TKO
FROM
TOKYO!



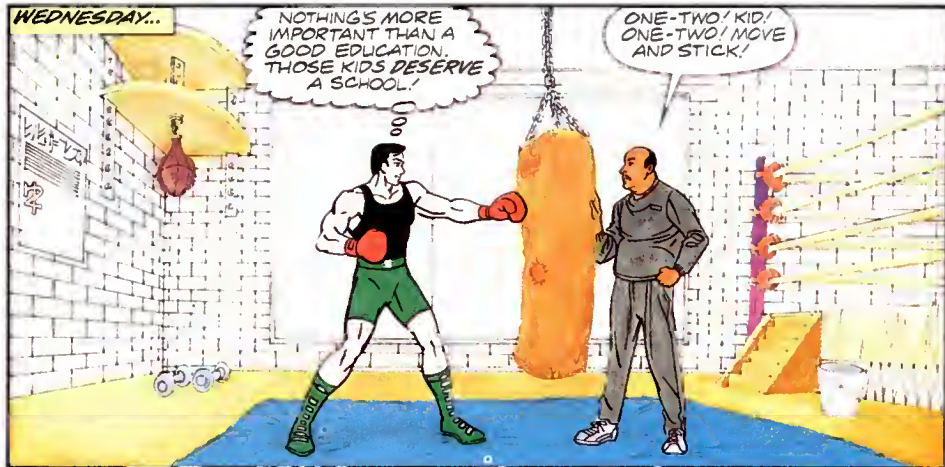
TUESDAY NIGHT, ON THE GINZA,
TOKYO'S FAMOUS "STREET OF
LIGHTS", MAC GETS IN SOME
ROADWORK.



WEDNESDAY...

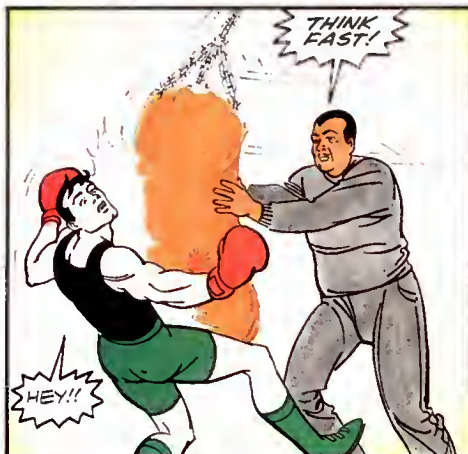
NOTHING'S MORE
IMPORTANT THAN A
GOOD EDUCATION.
THOSE KIDS DESERVE
A SCHOOL!

ONE-TWO! KID!
ONE-TWO! MOVE
AND STICK!

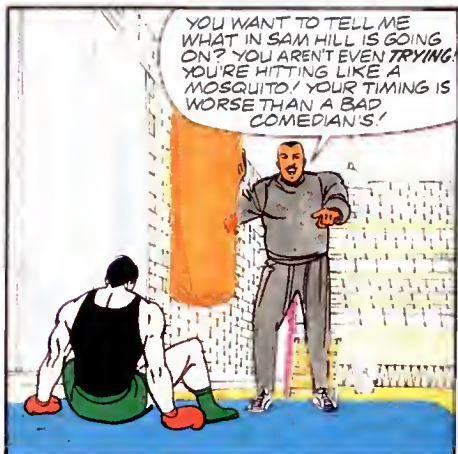


THINK
FAST!

HEY!!

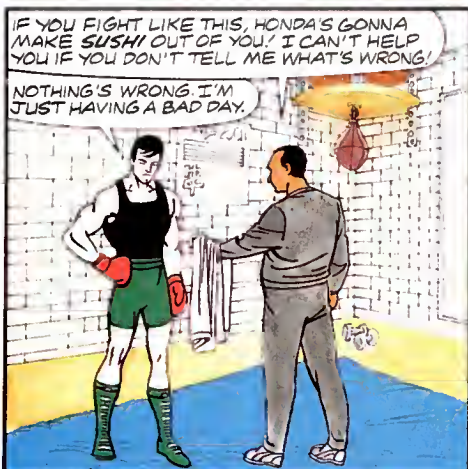


YOU WANT TO TELL ME
WHAT IN SAM HILL IS GOING
ON? YOU AREN'T EVEN TRYING.
YOU'RE HITTING LIKE A
MOSQUITO! YOUR TIMING IS
WORSE THAN A BAD
COMEDIAN'S!



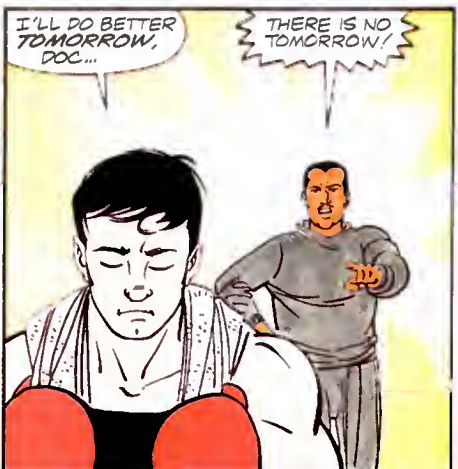
IF YOU FIGHT LIKE THIS, HONDA'S GONNA
MAKE SUSHI OUT OF YOU. I CAN'T HELP
YOU IF YOU DON'T TELL ME WHAT'S WRONG!

NOTHING'S WRONG. I'M
JUST HAVING A BAD DAY.



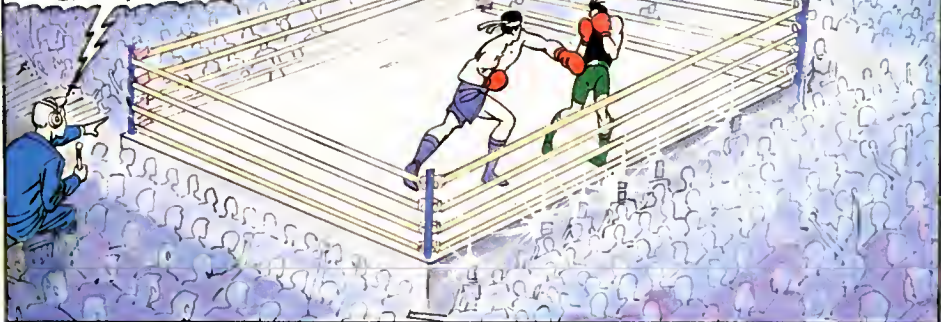
I'LL DO BETTER
TOMORROW,
DOC...

THERE IS NO
TOMORROW!

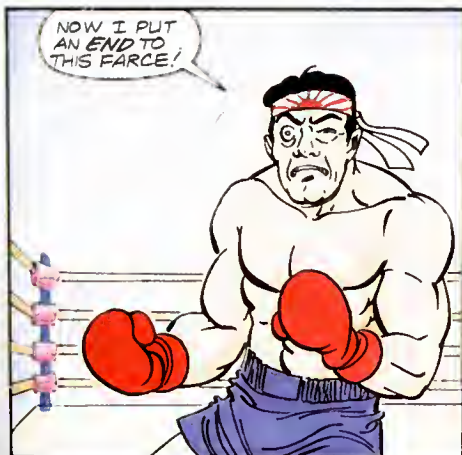


THURSDAY NIGHT... THE BIG MATCH!

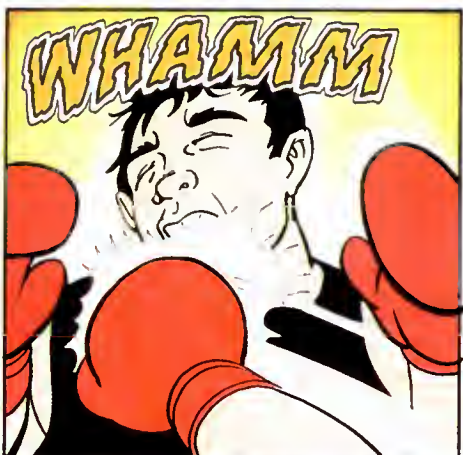
ANOTHER LEFT! WHAT'S
WRONG WITH THE LITTLE
MAC? HE'S ALWAYS
BEEN A REAL SCRAPER..
WHY ISN'T HE FIGHTING
BACK?



NOW I PUT
AN END TO
THIS FARCE!

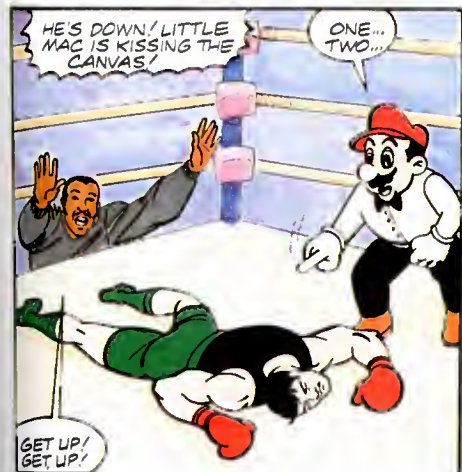


WHAMM



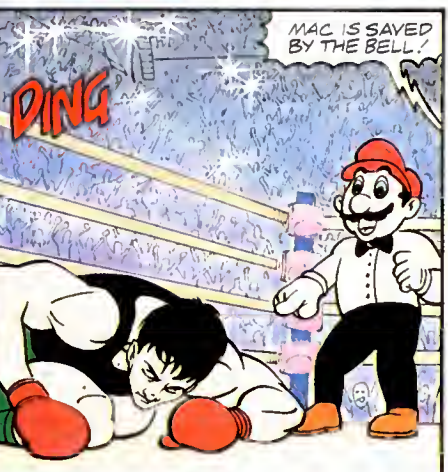
HE'S DOWN! LITTLE
MAC IS KISSING THE
CANVAS!

ONE...
TWO...



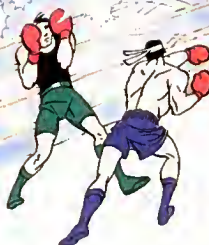
GET UP!
GET UP!

MAC IS SAVED
BY THE BELL!



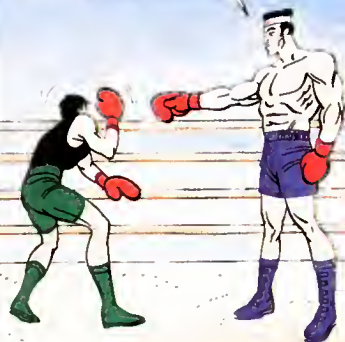
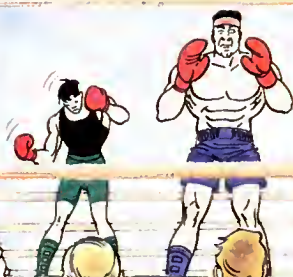
ROUND TWO...

...AND THIS ROUND HAS BEEN NO DIFFERENT FROM THE FIRST! MAC JUST WON'T FIGHT BACK! HOW MUCH LONGER CAN HE TAKE IT?



STOP THE FIGHT!

THIS MAN IS A COWARD! HE WILL NOT FIGHT BACK! THERE IS NO HONOR IN BEATING HIM!



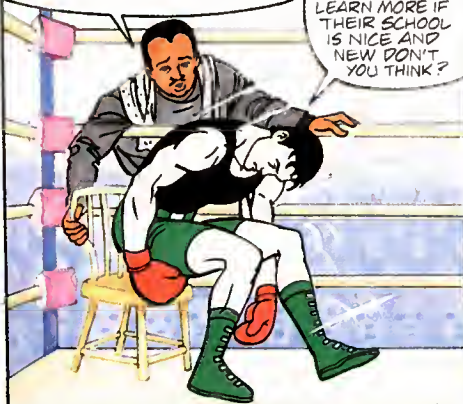
DING

AND THAT ENDS THE SECOND ROUND! WITH ONLY ONE ROUND TO GO, WHAT CHANCE DOES THE CHALLENGER HAVE?



WHAT'S WITH YOU, MAC? YOU'RE FIGHTING LIKE YOUR MIND'S A MILLION MILES AWAY!

I WAS THINKING, DOC... KIDS PROBABLY LEARN MORE IF THEIR SCHOOL IS NICE AND NEW DON'T YOU THINK?



THIS AIN'T A PTA MEETING, KID. THINK ABOUT THROWING SOME LEATHER.

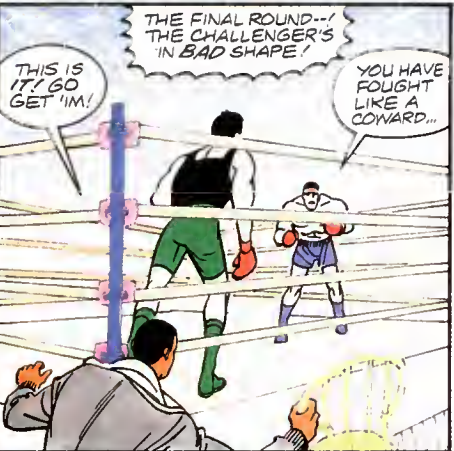
UNLESS... WHAT YOU'RE **THROWING**... IS THE FIGHT.

NO, BUT-- BUT...



NO BUTS, MAC. YOU GOTTA DO YOUR BEST. THEN, IF YOU LOSE--AT LEAST YOU STILL GOT YOUR HONOR!

DING



THIS IS IT! GO GET 'IM!

THE FINAL ROUND--! THE CHALLENGER'S IN **BAD SHAPE!**

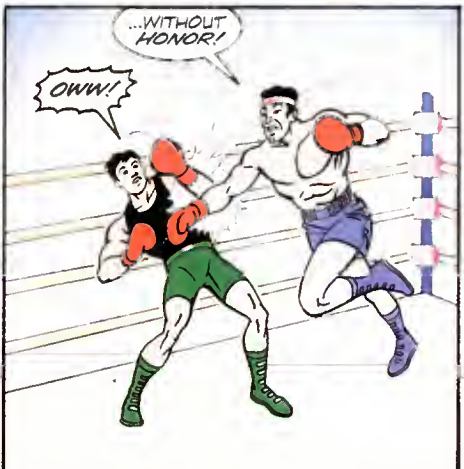
YOU HAVE FOUGHT LIKE A COWARD...

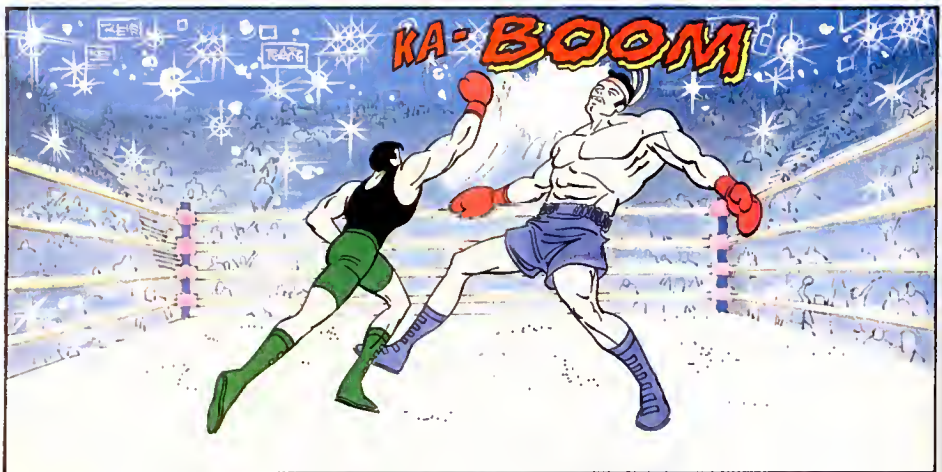
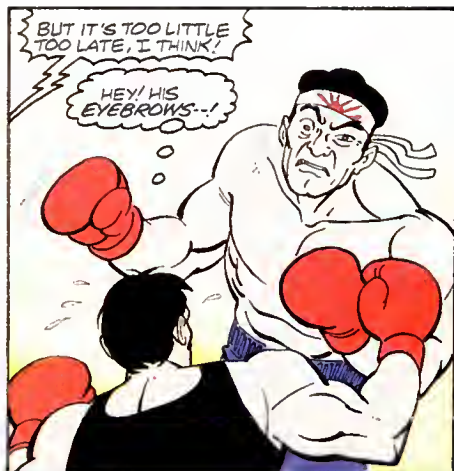
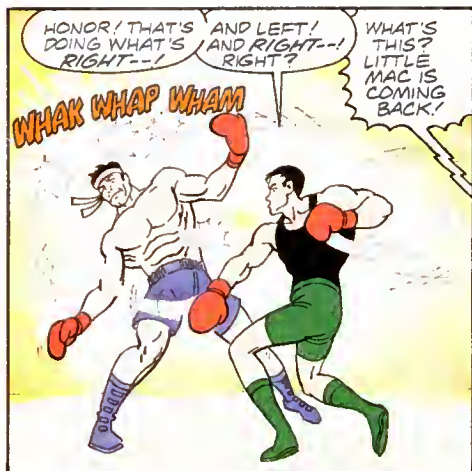
NOW, YOU WILL **FALL**...

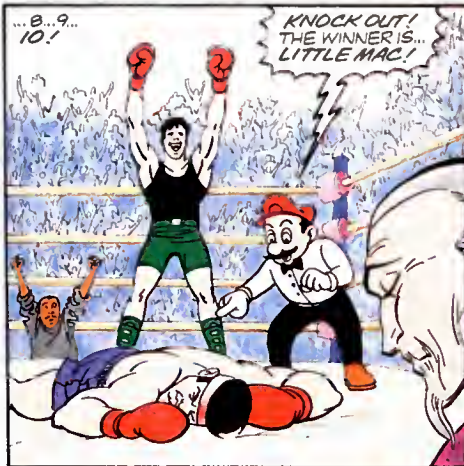


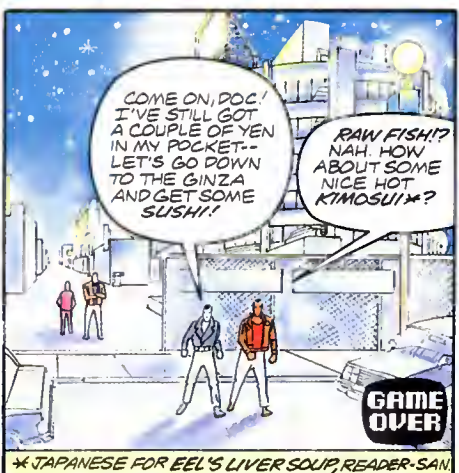
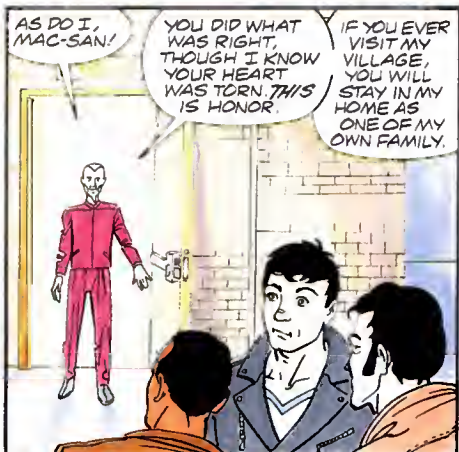
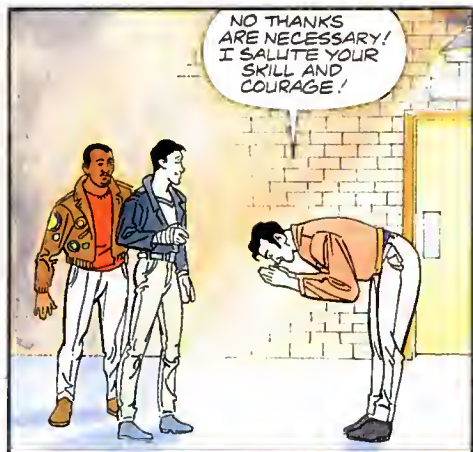
...WITHOUT **HONOR!**

OWW!









The story beginning on the next page is a special one. It was created *on stage* in front of the news and TV cameras during a press conference at which the Nintendo Comics System was announced to the world. In order to make their work easier to photograph, the artists drew the pictures at a larger size than usual and used darker ink to draw in the backgrounds.

"The Fish That Should've Gotten Away" is the **first** story ever created for the Nintendo Comics System. We thought you'd like to know that you're reading a piece of comics history!



The press conference took place at New York's glitzy **Palladium** last January, and was attended by scores of media people!



Artists at work.



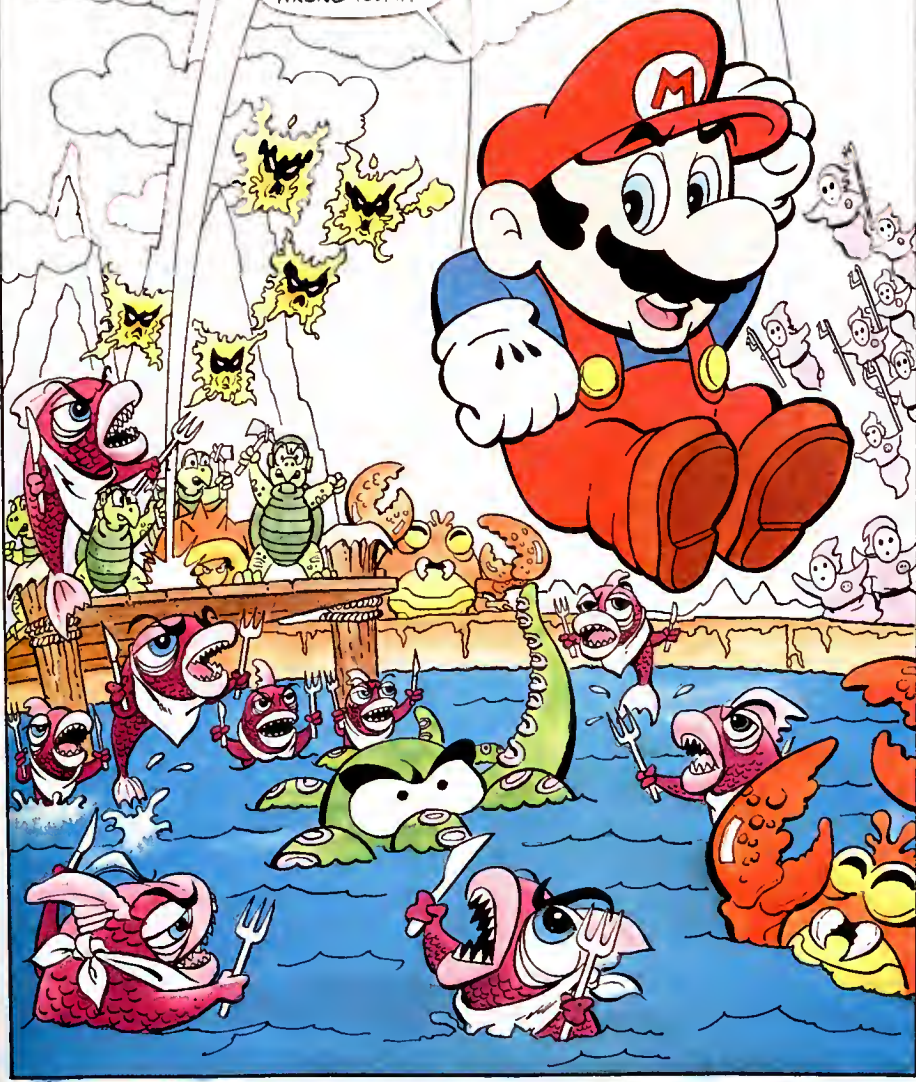
A special guest drops by.

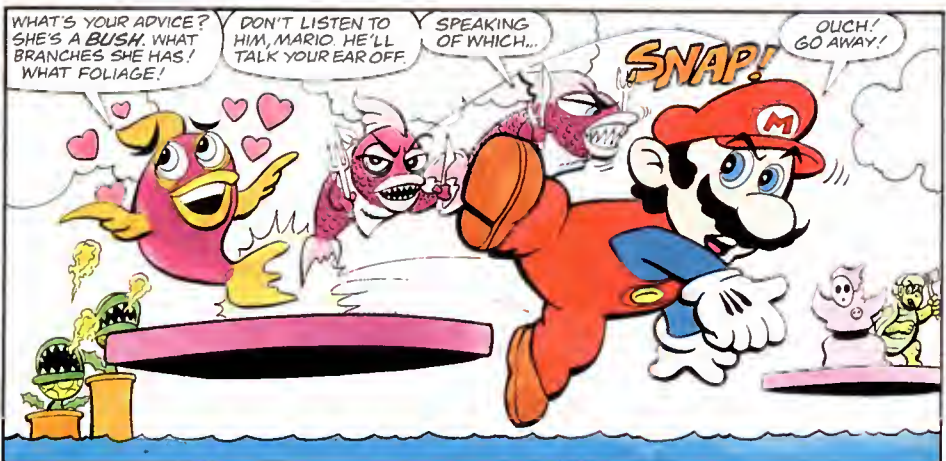
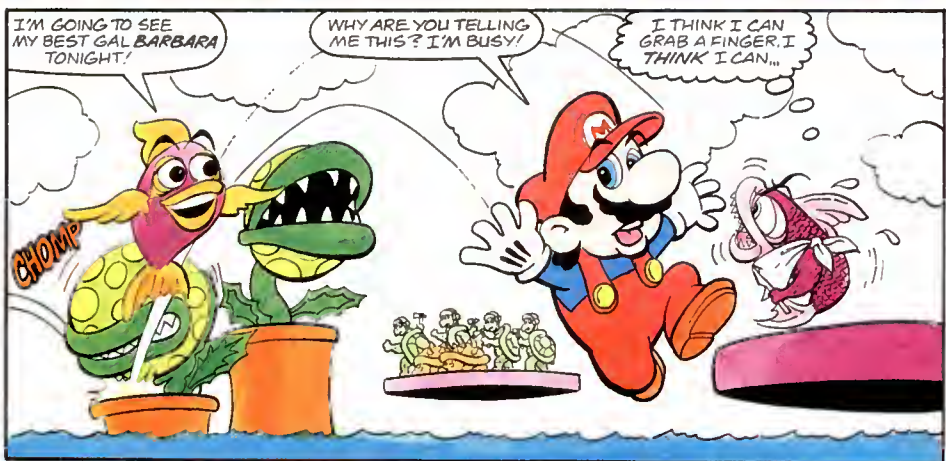
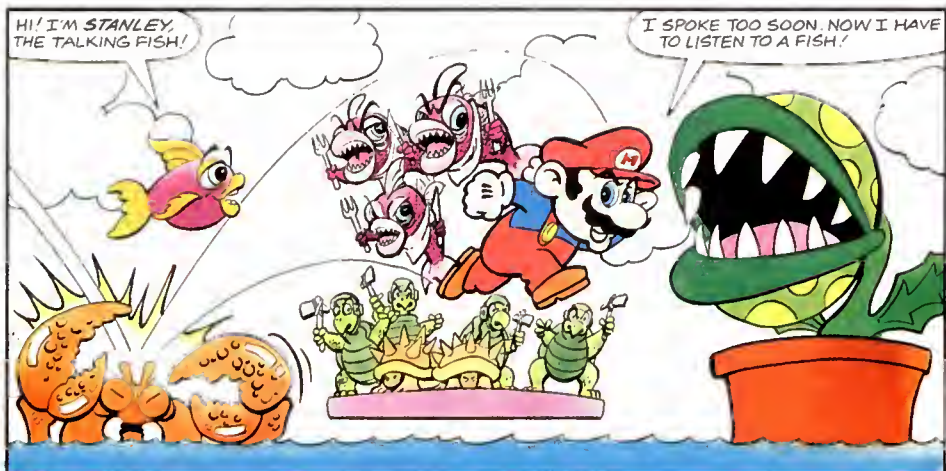
SUPER MARIO BROS. 3

THE FISH THAT
SHOULD'VE GOTTEN
AWAY

FRYGUYS,
SHYGUYS,
CLAWGRIPS,
SPARKS...

IT'S COMFORTING
TO KNOW NOTHING
ELSE CAN GO
WRONG TODAY!





I THINK SHE LIKES ME... BUT DOES SHE LIKE-LIKE ME?

GREAT AN INSECURE FISH



OF COURSE, I AM KINDA CUTE DON'T CHA THINK?

NOT TO BE RUDE, BUT I'M REALLY BUSY RIGHT NOW!



C'MON. I AM A GOOD-LOOKING GUY, RIGHT? I THINK YOU'RE A GOOD-LOOKING GUY...

YOU'RE A FISH. WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT GOOD LOOKS?

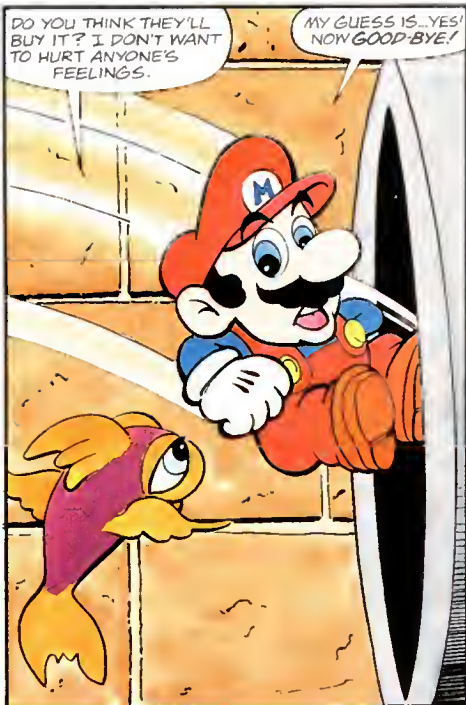


BUT HOWDO I LET THE OTHER BUSHES KNOW THAT BARBARA IS THE ONLY ONE FOR ME?

TELL THEM "LEAF ME ALONE, I'M A STUPID FISH!"

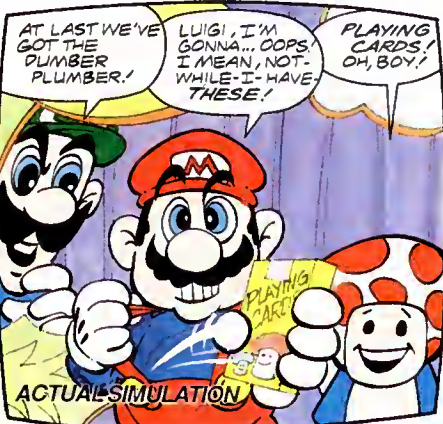
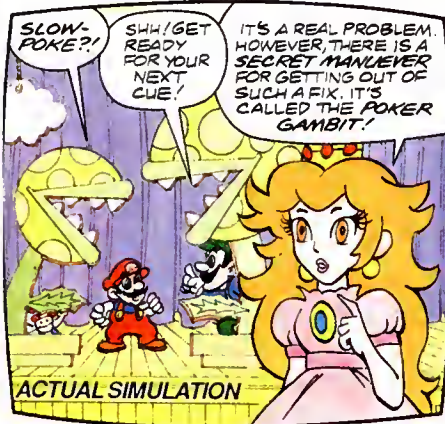


YOU SAID A MOUTHFUL.



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

HELLO, I'M PRINCESS TOADSTOOL, WITH AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTEREST TO GAME PLAYERS EVERYWHERE



the MARIO BROS. GUIDE TO GROOMING YOUR MOUSTACHE

SOMETIMES YOU SPEND HOURS LOOKING FOR JUST THE RIGHT FASHION STATEMENT, AND SOMETIMES IT'S RIGHT UNDER YOUR NOSE!

WHO SAYS A MOUSTACHE CAN'T BE MORE THAN A SCRAGGLY BUSH OF WHISKERS? NOT THE MARIO BROTHERS!



BRAIDING SOMETHING AS SMALL AS A MOUSTACHE MAY TAKE A LITTLE PRACTICE... BUT THE RESULTS ARE WORTH IT!



THE PONYTAIL IS ANOTHER BIG FAVORITE! FROM ROCK 'N' ROLLERS TO STOCKBROKERS--OR EVEN PLUMBERS--THIS STYLISH STATEMENT SAYS, "HEY, LOOK AT ME!"



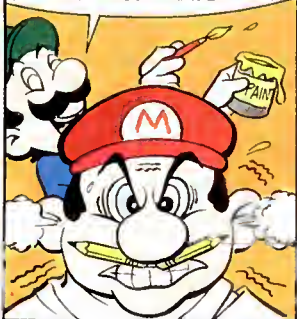
IF MARILYN MONROE HAD GROWN A MOUSTACHE, IT WOULD HAVE LOOKED LIKE THIS ...



HELLO, DALL! SOMETIMES A LITTLE MOUSTACHE WAX IS ALL YOU NEED TO MAKE YOUR POINT! SUR-REALLY!



SOME OF THE SILVER SCREEN'S GREATEST LOVERS SPORDED THE DASHING "PENCIL" MOUSTACHE! IF YOU'VE EVER HAD ANY DOUBTS ABOUT GROWING A MOUSTACHE, THIS WILL SURELY ERASE THEM!



OF COURSE, SOMETIMES THE VERY BEST EFFECTS REQUIRE EXTRA EFFORT!

COME BACK, LUIGI! DON'T YOU WANT TO TRY THE "BILLIARD BALL" LOOK? OR HOW ABOUT THE "ELECTRIC BLENDER" LOOK?



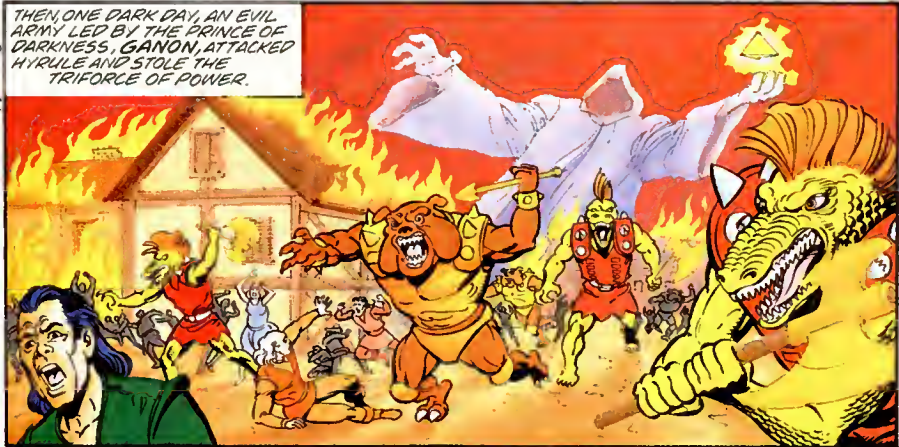
A LONG TIME AGO...

IN THE KINGDOM OF HYRULE, A LEGEND WAS HANDLED DOWN FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION...

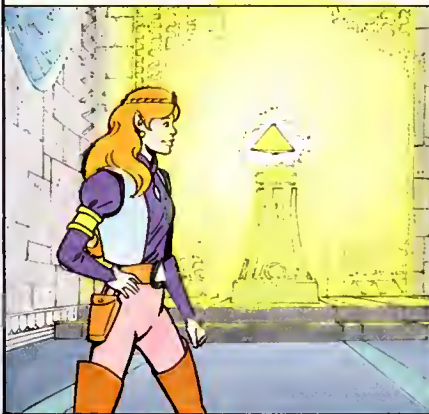
THE LEGEND OF THE THREE TRIFORCES, EACH ONE POSSESSING GREAT MYSTIC ENERGY, ONE FOR WISDOM, ONE FOR POWER, AND ONE FOR COURAGE.



THEN, ONE DARK DAY, AN EVIL ARMY LED BY THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS, GANON, ATTACKED HYRULE AND STOLE THE TRIFORCE OF POWER.

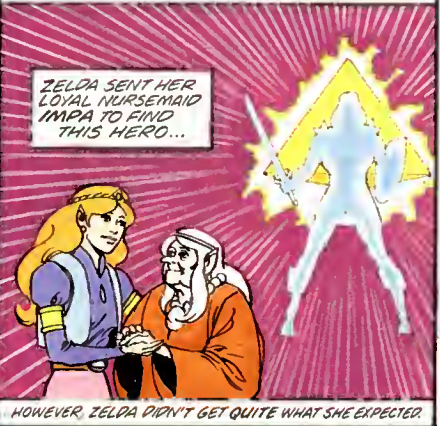


ZELDA, THE PRINCESS OF HYRULE, MANAGED TO SAVE THE TRIFORCE OF WISDOM, KNOWING THAT IF GANON EVER POSSESSED THE TRIFORCES OF WISDOM AND POWER, HE WOULD RULE THE LAND FOREVER.



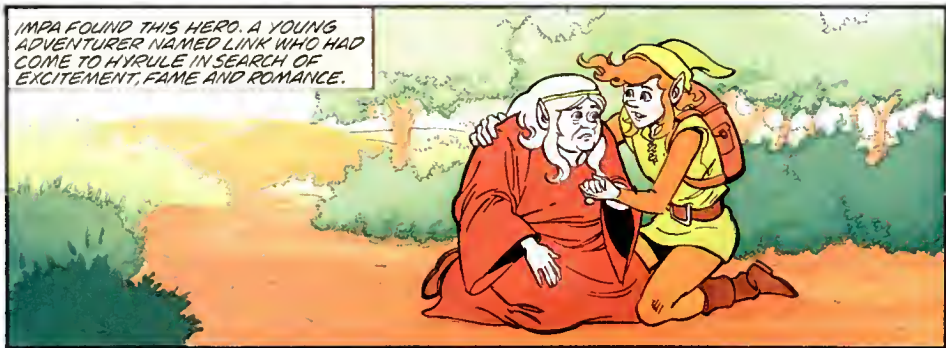
THE THIRD TRIFORCE, COURAGE, REMAINED HIDDEN FOR A REASON. ONLY A MIGHTY HERO, POSSESSING SPECIAL POWERS AND A STRONG CHARACTER, WOULD BE ABLE TO DISCOVER IT.

ZELDA SENT HER LOYAL NURSEMAID IMPA TO FIND THIS HERO...



HOWEVER, ZELDA DIDN'T GET QUITE WHAT SHE EXPECTED.

IMPA FOUND THIS HERO. A YOUNG ADVENTURER NAMED LINK WHO HAD COME TO HYRULE IN SEARCH OF EXCITEMENT, FAME AND ROMANCE.



HE WOULD FIND ALL THREE AND HE WOULD CARRY THE TRIFORCE OF COURAGE IN HIS HEART.



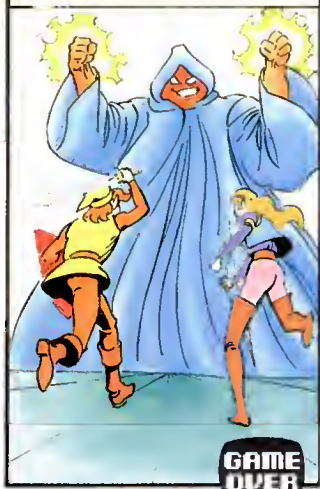
...BUT AS LINK TOO WOULD SOON DISCOVER...



...THINGS IN HYRULE DON'T GO QUITE THE WAY YOU EXPECT.



AND THUS THE LEGEND ENDS AND THE ADVENTURE BEGINS...

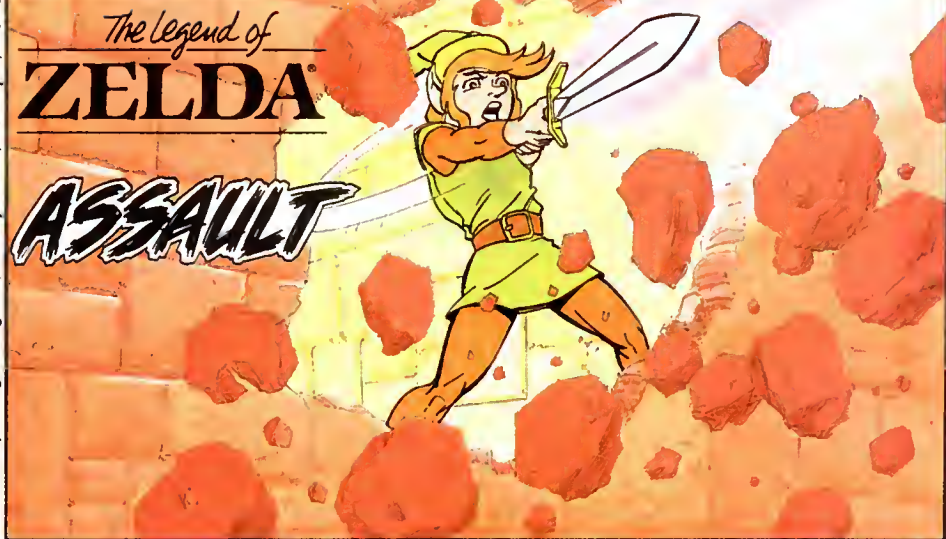


GAME OVER

A LONG TIME AGO, THE WORLD
WAS IN AN AGE OF CHAOS.
THERE WAS A LAND CALLED
HYRULE,
A LEGEND CALLED ZELDA,
AN ADVENTURER CALLED
LINK,
AN EVIL KNOWN AS GANON
AND THE THREE TRIFORCES,
THE POWER OVER THEM ALL.

The Legend of ZELDA

ASSAULT



ZELDA!!

HANG ON,
PRINCESS! YOUR
HANDSOME HERO
IS HERE!

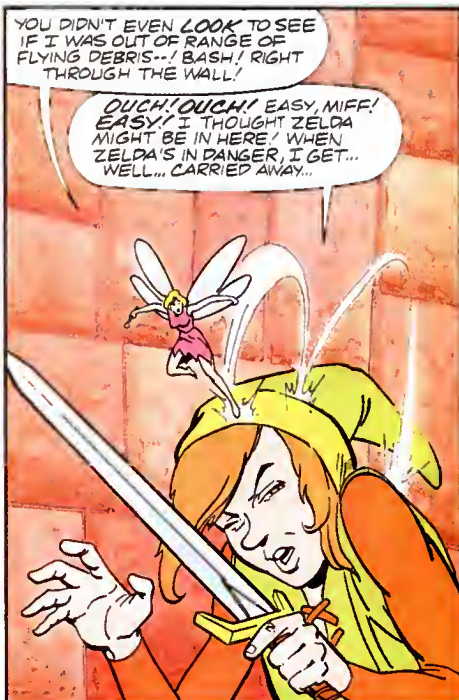
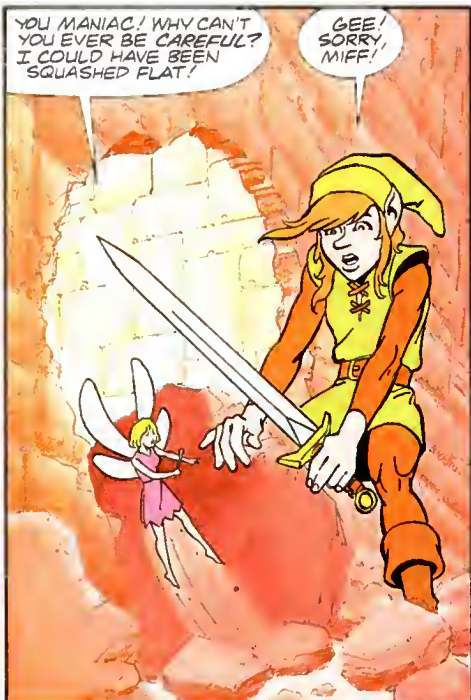
OKAY, VILE VILLAINS! WHO WANTS TO
TASTE AN ARM'S LENGTH OF COLD
STEEL?



LINK! HELP! GET ME OUTTA HERE!

HUH?





ELSEWHERE INSIDE DEATH MOUNTAIN...

SOON, PRINCESS ZELDA, I WILL
ADD YOUR TRIFORCE OF
WISDOM TO MY TRIFORCE OF
POWER-- AND RULE HYRULE
FOREVER!

NEVER, GANON!
NOT SO LONG
AS LINK LIVES!

ALL THINGS
COME TO HE
WHO WAITS...

I-I'M SORRY, MASTER! THE ADVENTURER,
LINK, PASSED MY OUTPOST. I TRIED TO
DESTROY HIM, BUT FAILED!

HE SMASHED MY ENTIRE
PACK OF BROTHERS IN
MOMENTS, AND I, I
ALONE ESCAPED TO TELL
YOU!

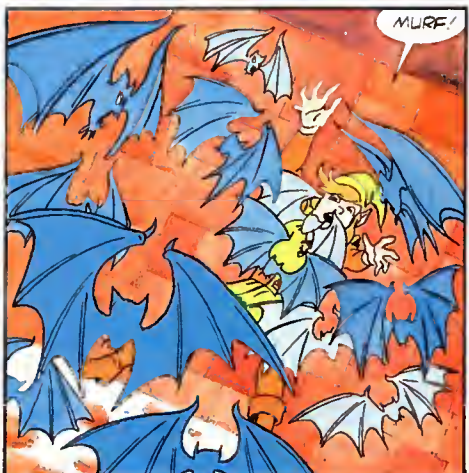
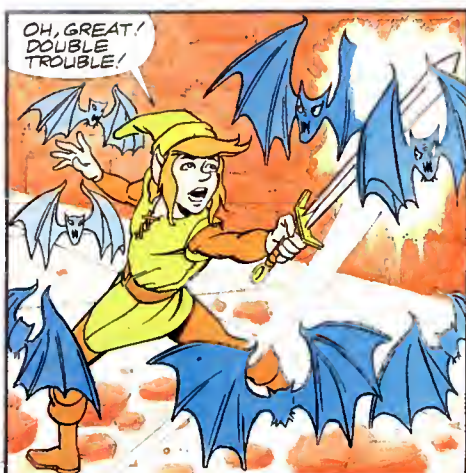
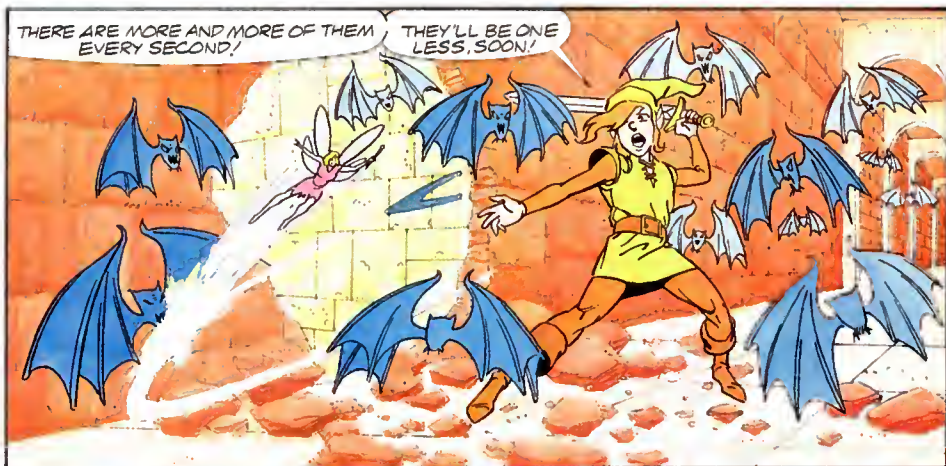
ARISE, FAITHFUL MOLBLIN!
I FORGIVE YOU FOR NOT
DESTROYING LINK.

NOT CAPTURING HIM, WELL...
THAT'S ANOTHER THING
ALTOGETHER.

MASTER...
NOOOOOOOOO!

NO ONE
BUT
ME!

NO
ONE
WILL
DESTROY
LINK!



EXCELLENT, VIRE! TAKE HIM TO THE FIRST HOLDING ZONE... CAREFULLY!



NOW THEN! WHAT METHOD OF DESTRUCTION SHALL I EMPLOY FOR LINK. THE GLEEOKFIRE? NO... TOO QUICK!

ROPE WORMS? AH, HE WOULD FAINT FROM THE PAIN ALMOST INSTANTLY, I FEAR!

PERHAPS EATEN ALIVE BY MANHANDLA...

PLEASE DON'T KILL HIM.



I'LL GIVE YOU ANYTHING!

BAH! YOU HAVE NOTHING I WANT...



...EXCEPT--THE TRIFORCE OF WISDOM!

WILL YOU TRADE THE TRIFORCE OF WISDOM FOR THE LINK'S LIFE?



YES



YOU WOULD
ACTUALLY
DO IT, WOULDN'T
YOU?

AND THUS BOTH
TRIFORCES WOULD
BE MINE... AT
LAST!



BUT... NO!!

LET'S DO THIS THE MORE
ENJOYABLE WAY. I'LL FIND
YOUR TRIFORCE AND SIMPLY
TAKE IT... AFTER I DESTROY
YOU BOTH!

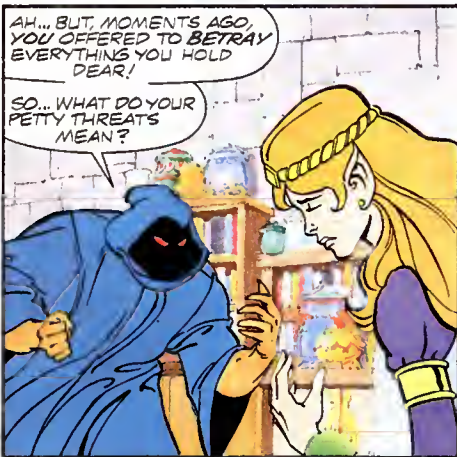


I'LL FIND A WAY TO STOP YOU! YOU
MISERABLE CREATURE! I SWEAR
BY EVERYTHING I HOLD DEAR!



AH... BUT, MOMENTS AGO,
YOU OFFERED TO BETRAY
EVERYTHING YOU HOLD
DEAR!

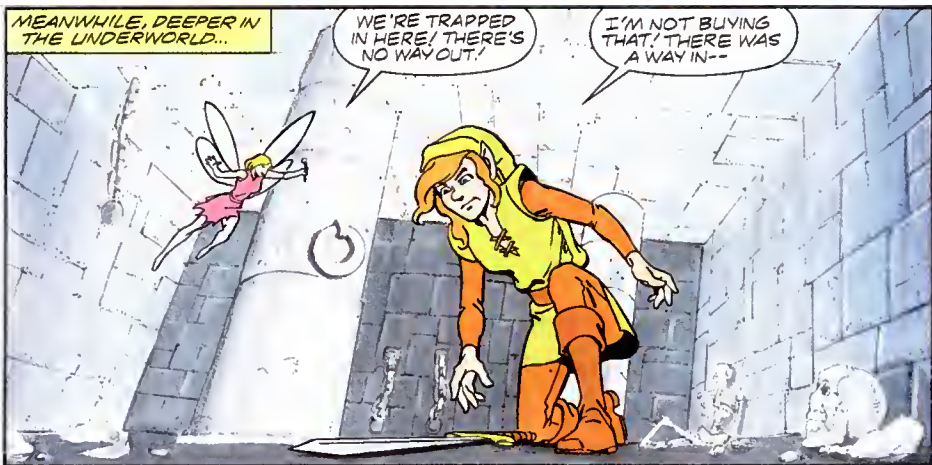
SO... WHAT DO YOUR
PETTY THREATS
MEAN?

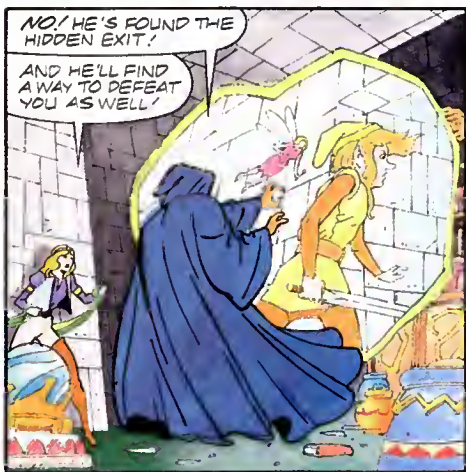
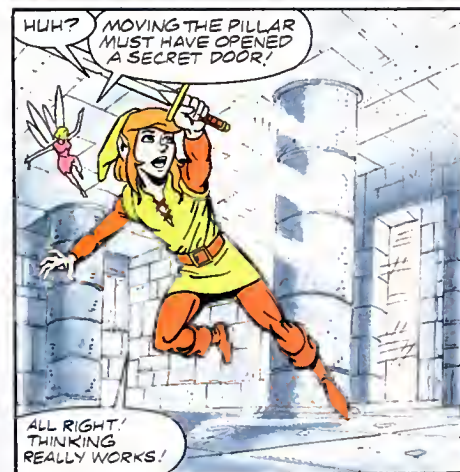
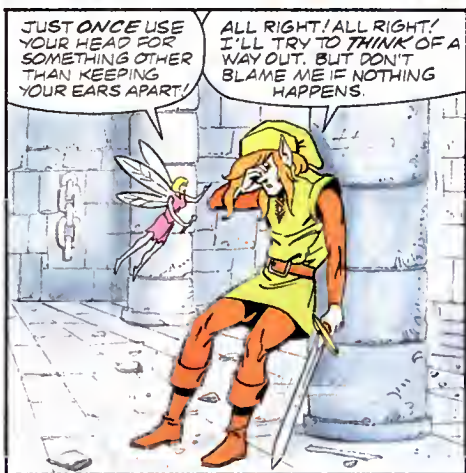
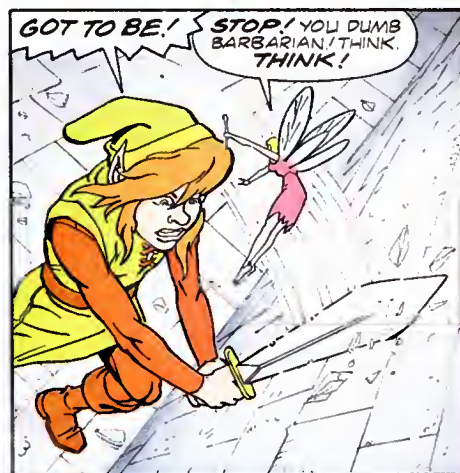
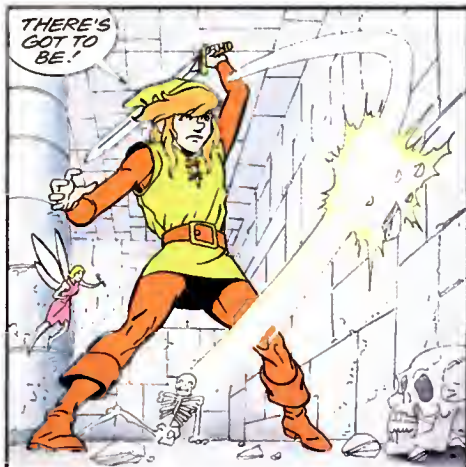
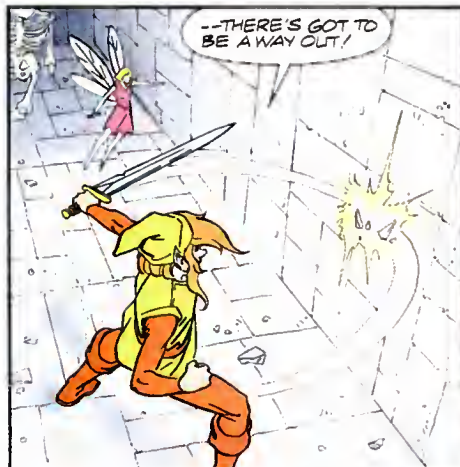


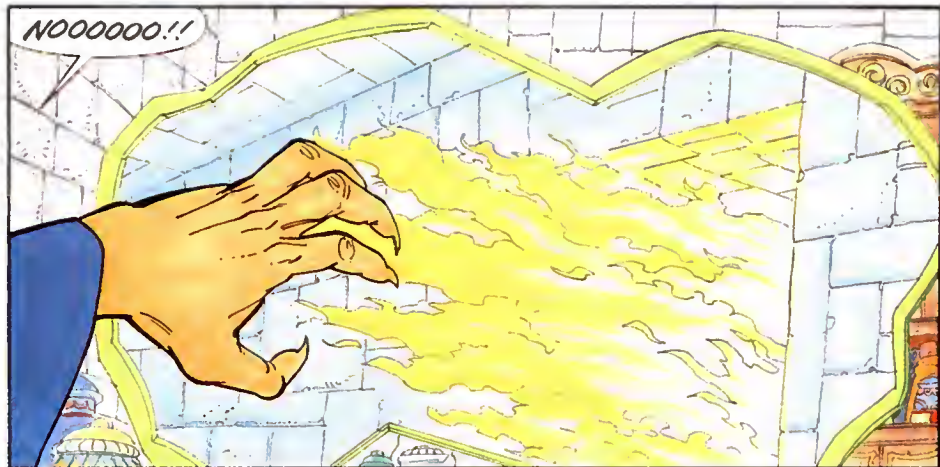
MEANWHILE, DEEPER IN
THE UNDERWORLD...

WE'RE TRAPPED
IN HERE! THERE'S
NO WAY OUT!

I'M NOT BUYING
THAT! THERE WAS
A WAY IN--







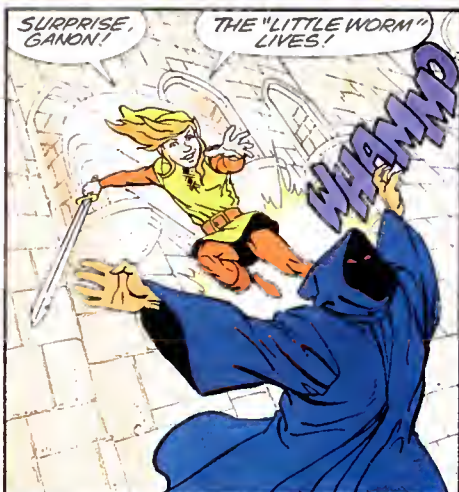


HOW DARE THE GLEEOK
INCINERATE THAT LITTLE
WORM, LINK, WITHOUT MY
PERMISSION



SURPRISE,
GANON!

THE "LITTLE WORM"
LIVES!



LINK! HOW DID YOU SURVIVE?

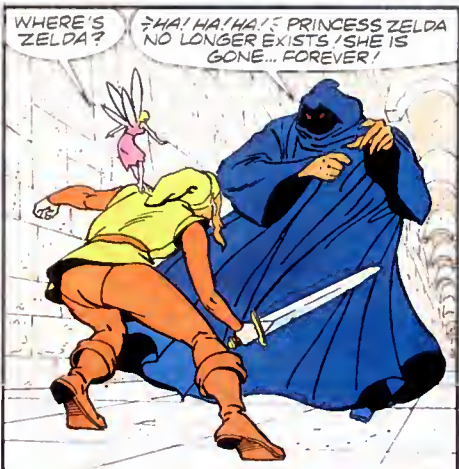
(JUST FINE, THANKS!

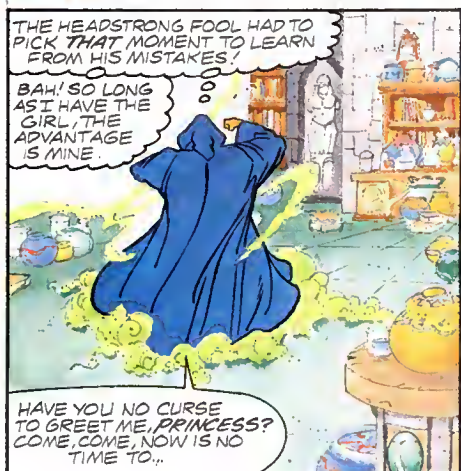
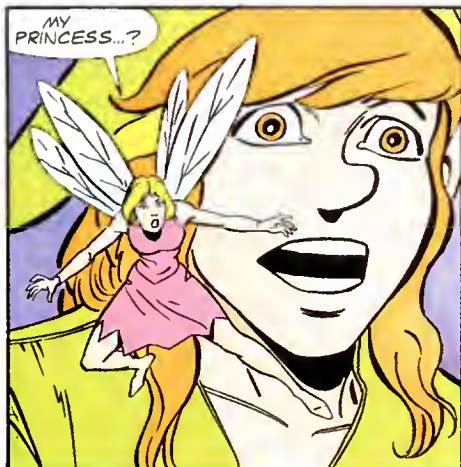
HE'S GOT A MAGIC SHIELD
AND HE KNOWS HOW TO USE
IT



WHERE'S
ZELDA?

HA! HA! HA! PRINCESS ZELDA
NO LONGER EXISTS! SHE IS
GONE... FOREVER!





The Legend of **ZELDA**

YIELD, PRINCESS
ZELDA! YOU ARE SO
WEARY FROM RUNNING
YOU CAN BARELY LIFT
THAT BOW! YOU ARE
NO MATCH FOR
DARKNUT!

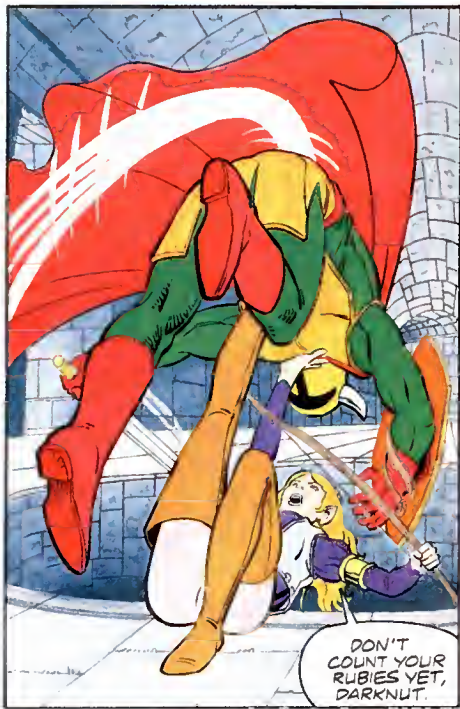
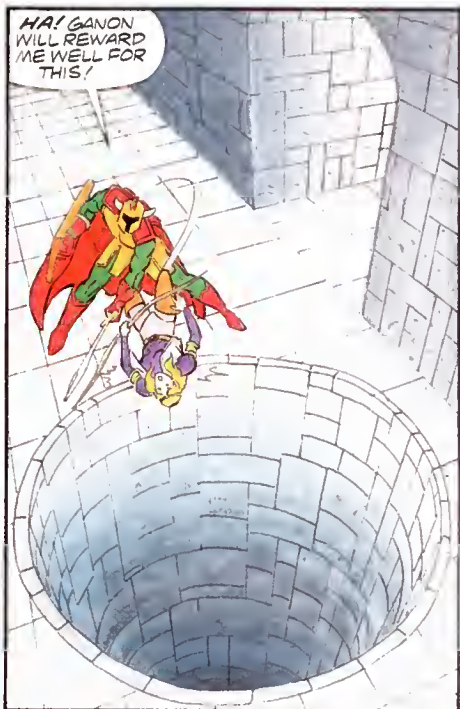
WE'LL SEE
ABOUT
THAT!

CHOICES

HE'S RIGHT. THE MAGIC SPELL I CAST TO
ESCAPE GANON... ALMOST DESTROYED ME...
MY LIFE FORCE IS NEARLY GONE! I'M IN NO
SHAPE TO FIGHT ONE OF GANON'S KNIGHTS!

BUT NOTHING IS
GOING TO STOP ME.
...
SO, METAL MOUTH,
ARE YOU GOING TO
FIGHT OR JUST
TALK ME TO
DEATH?

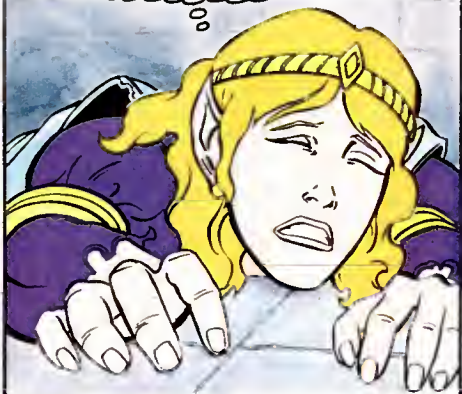
IN GANON'S
NAME...
DARKNUT
DESTROYS!



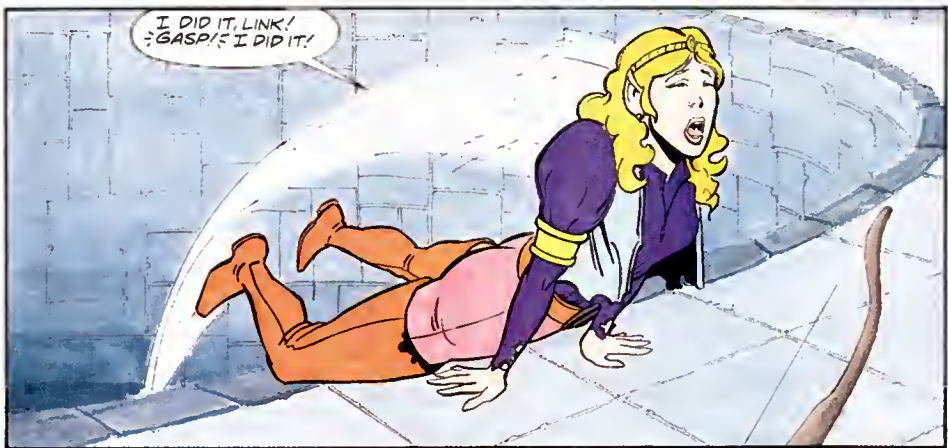
CAN'T PULL MYSELF
UP. JUST TOO TIRED.



HMP. I'M THE ONE WHO ALWAYS TOLD LINK,
NEVER GIVE UP. YOU'RE NEVER BEATEN UNTIL
YOU GIVE UP."



I DID IT, LINK!
GASPI! I DID IT!

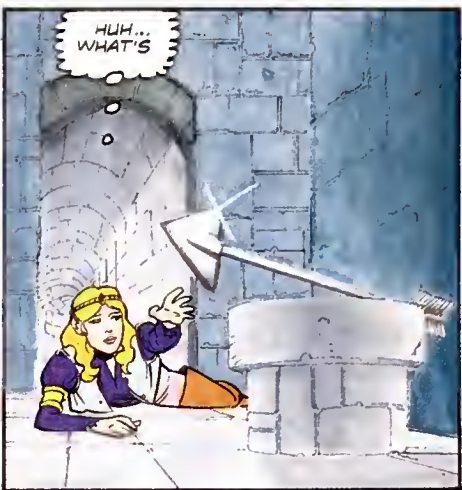


LINK WOULD BE PROUD OF ME.
BUT... LINK IS GONE. HE CAME TO
DEATH MOUNTAIN TO SAVE ME AND
GANON'S CREATURES...
DESTROYED HIM.

IF ONLY THERE WAS
A WAY TO MAKE
GANON PAY.



HUH...
WHAT'S

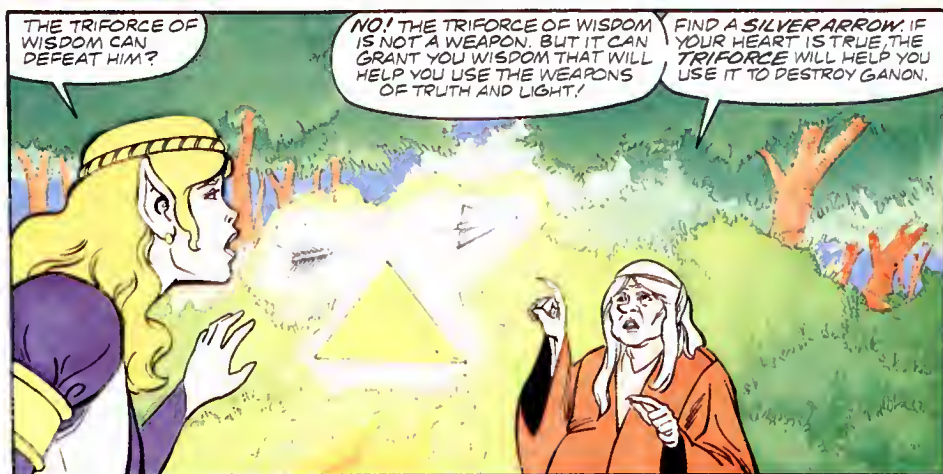




A SILVER ARROW... OF COURSE! I REMEMBER!

...BUT IMPA, SURELY GANON IS NOT INVINCIBLE?

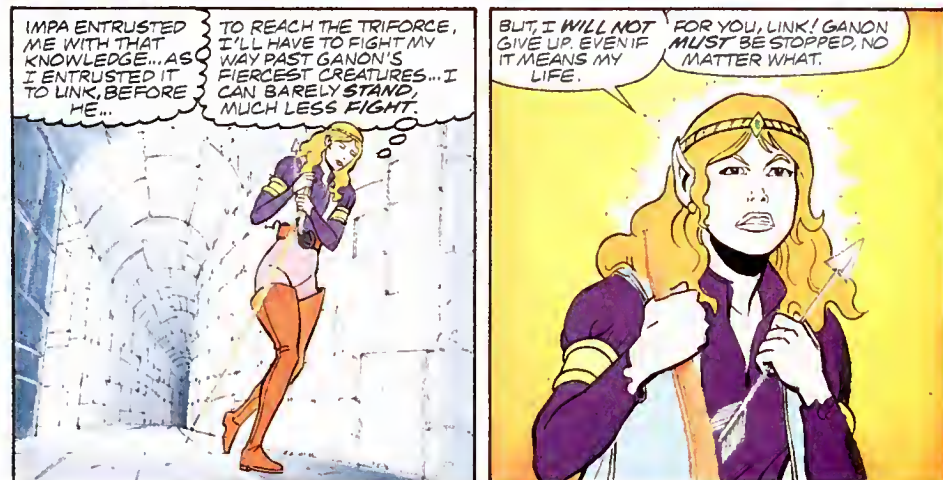
NO, INDEED, MY CHILD. JUST AS EVIL HAS MANY FACES, GANON HAS MORE THAN ONE WEAKNESS.



THE TRIFORCE OF WISDOM CAN DEFEAT HIM?

NO! THE TRIFORCE OF WISDOM IS NOT A WEAPON. BUT IT CAN GRANT YOU WISDOM THAT WILL HELP YOU USE THE WEAPONS OF TRUTH AND LIGHT!

FIND A SILVER ARROW. IF YOUR HEART IS TRUE, THE TRIFORCE WILL HELP YOU USE IT TO DESTROY GANON.



IMPA ENTRUSTED ME WITH THAT KNOWLEDGE...AS I ENTRUSTED IT TO LINK, BEFORE HE...

TO REACH THE TRIFORCE, I'LL HAVE TO FIGHT MY WAY PAST GANON'S FIERCEST CREATURES...I CAN BARELY STAND, MUCH LESS FIGHT.

BUT, I WILL NOT GIVE UP. EVEN IF IT MEANS MY LIFE.

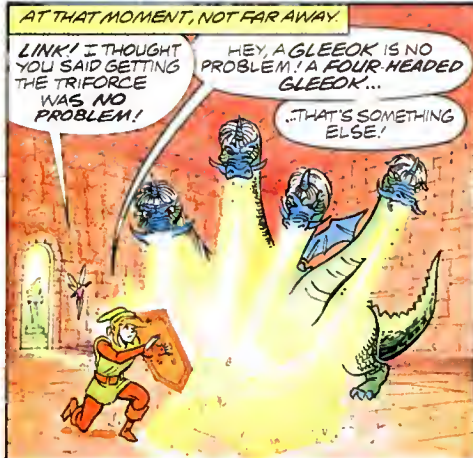
FOR YOU, LINK! GANON MUST BE STOPPED, NO MATTER WHAT.

AT THAT MOMENT, NOT FAR AWAY

LINK! I THOUGHT
YOU SAID GETTING
THE TRIFORCE
WAS NO
PROBLEM!

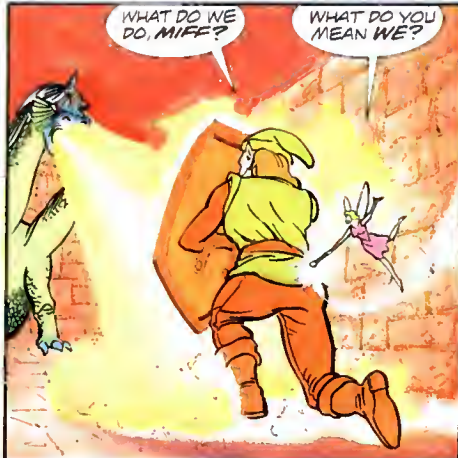
HEY, A GLEEOK IS NO
PROBLEM! A FOUR-HEADED
GLEEOK...

...THAT'S SOMETHING
ELSE!



WHAT DO WE
DO, MIFF?

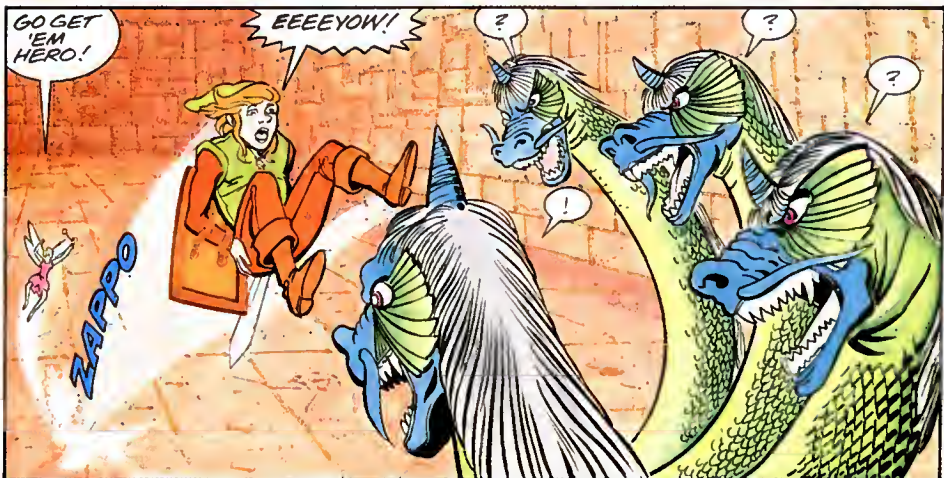
WHAT DO YOU
MEAN WE?



GO GET
'EM
HERO!

EEEEYOW!

ZAPPO



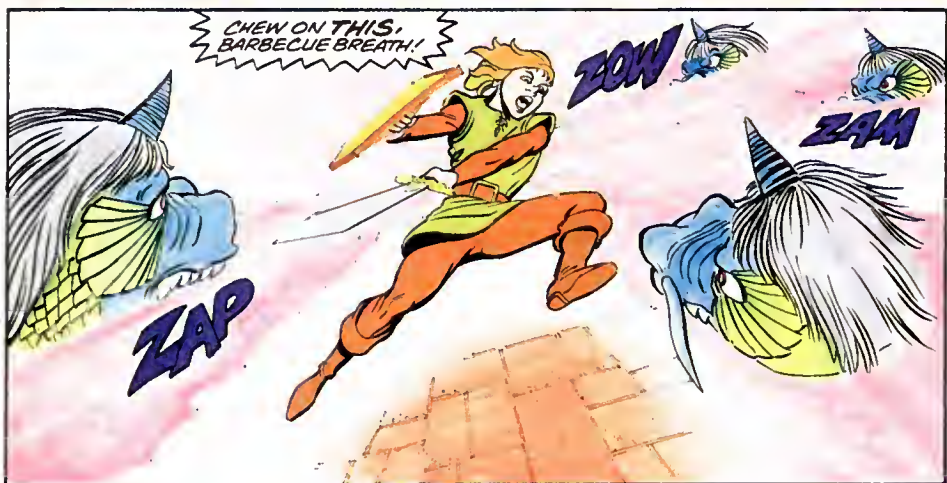
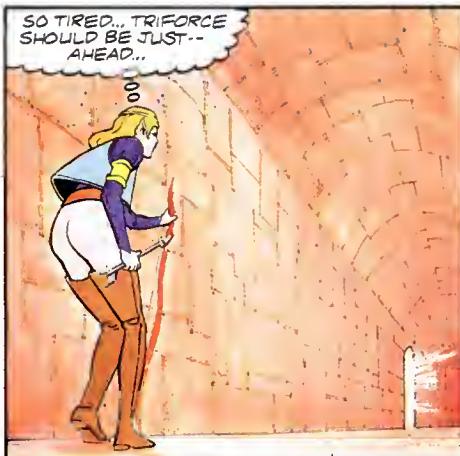
MINDIFICUT IN?

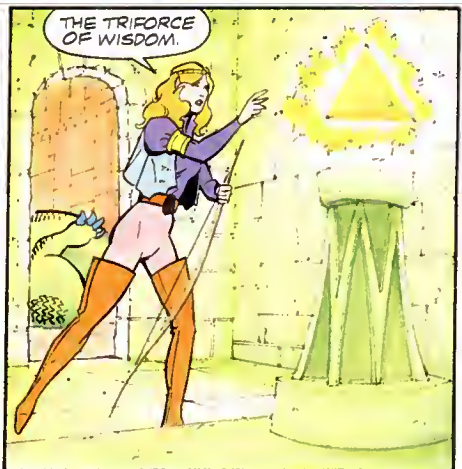
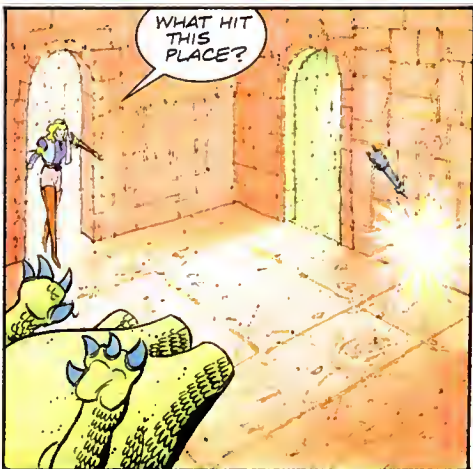
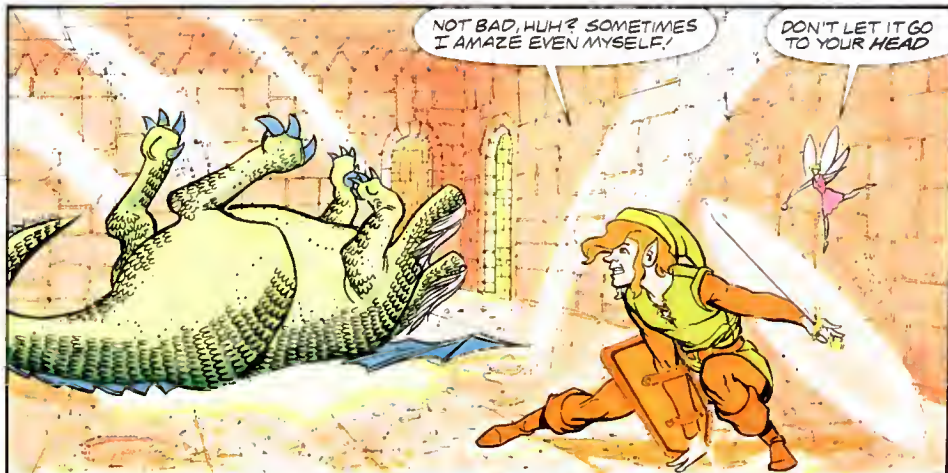


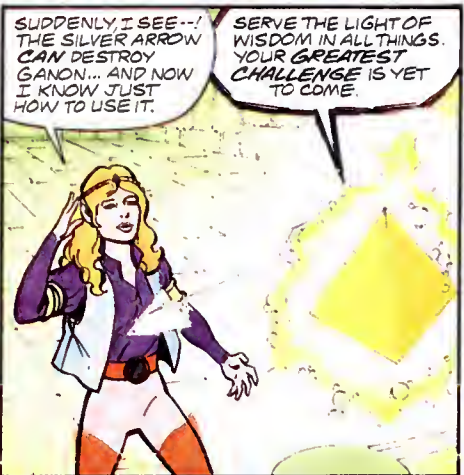
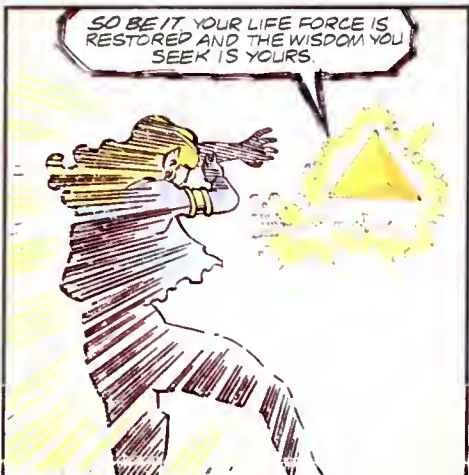
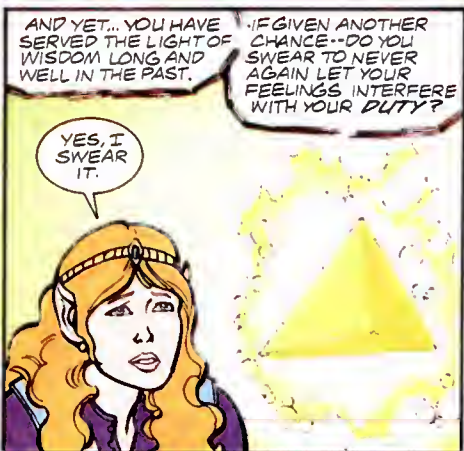
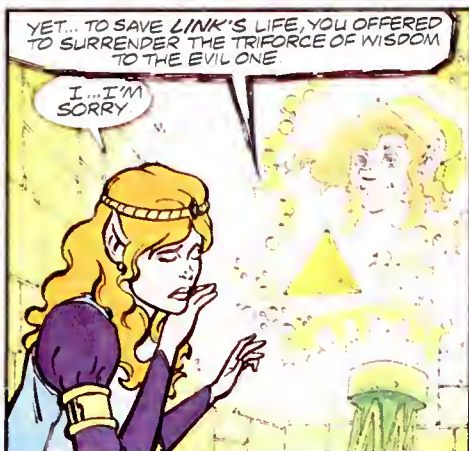
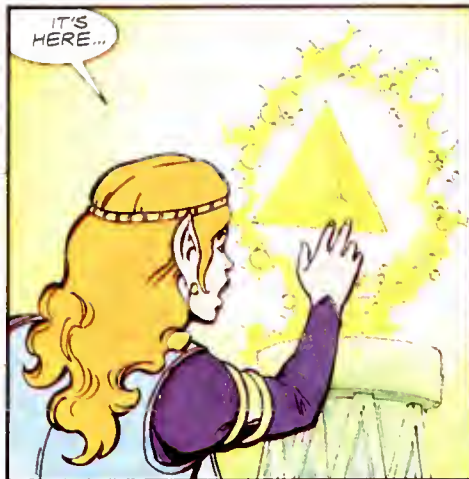
ZAM

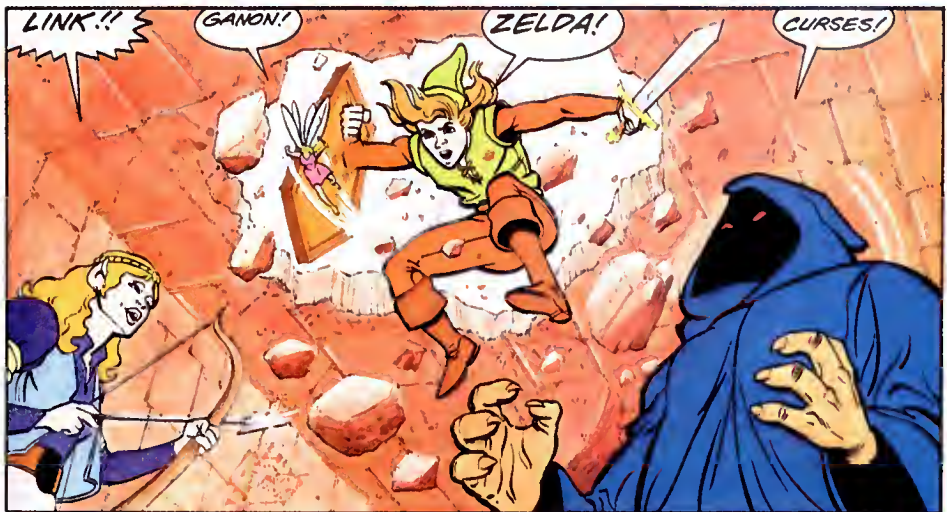
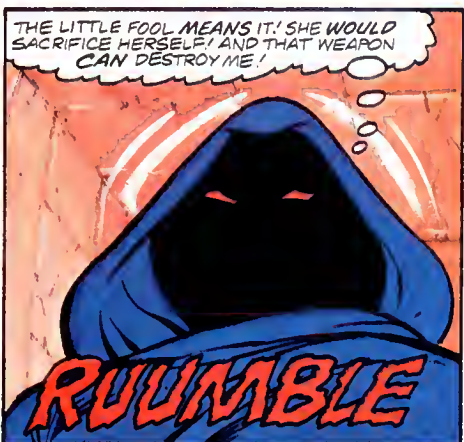
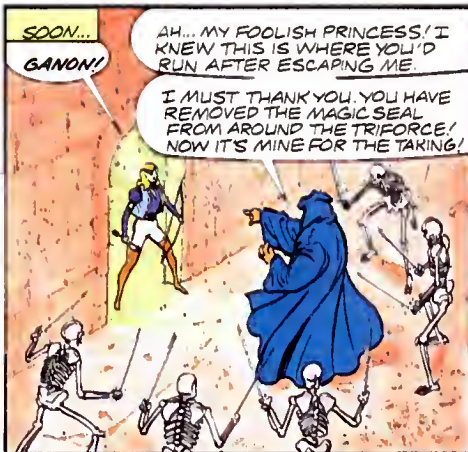


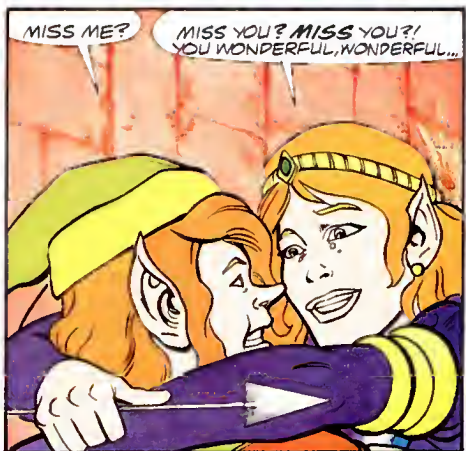
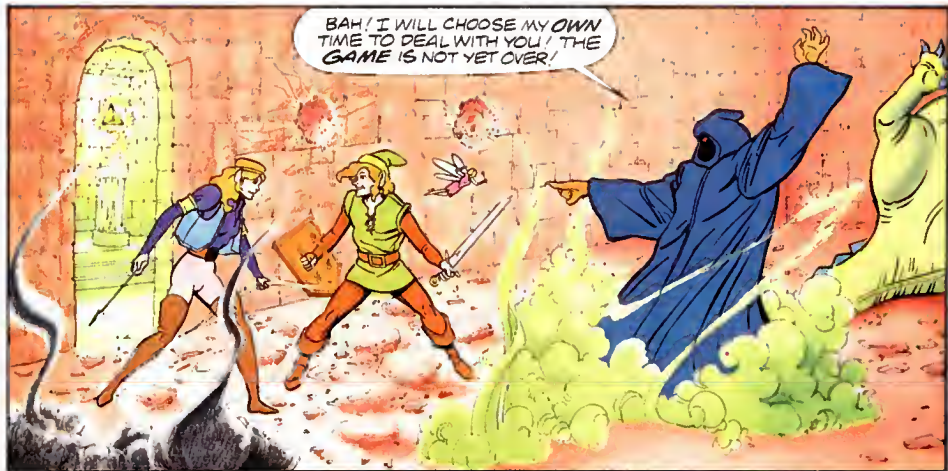
WOOLF!





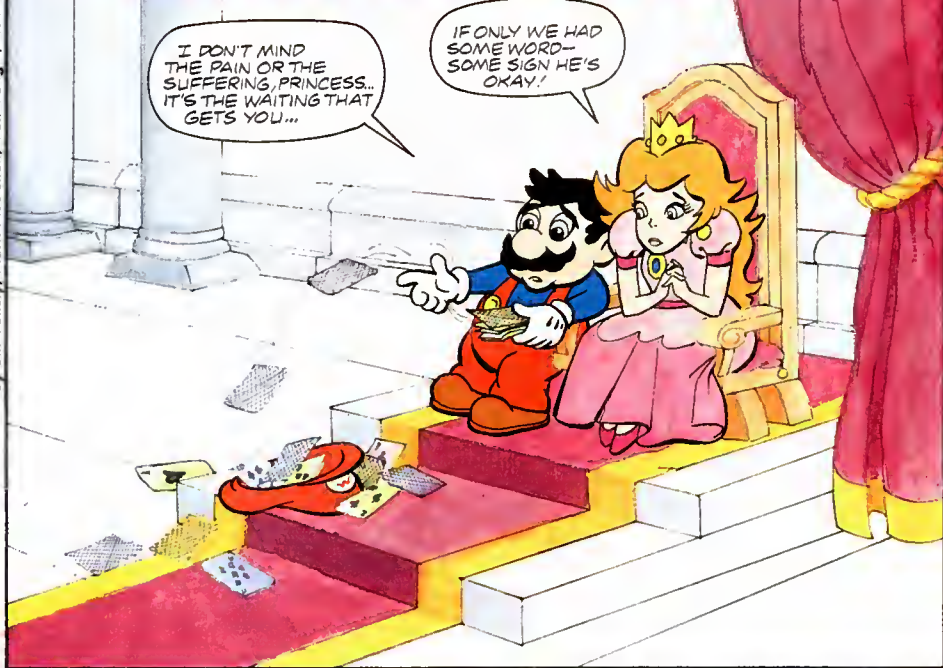


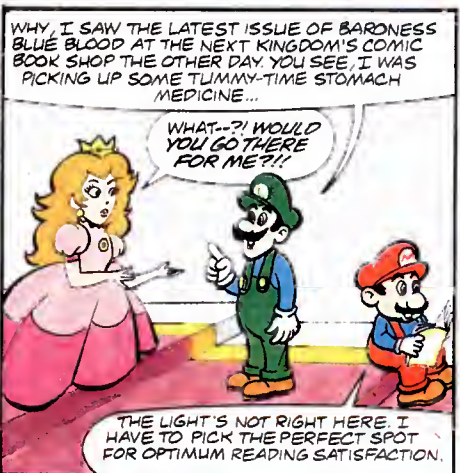
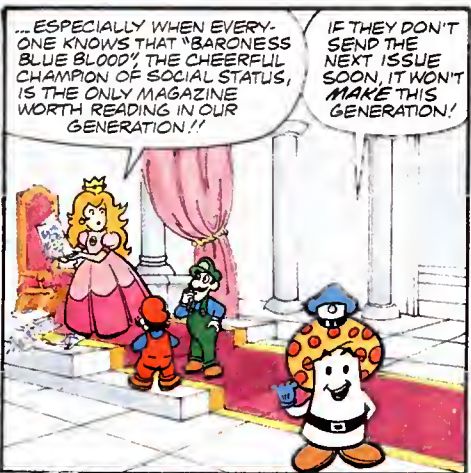
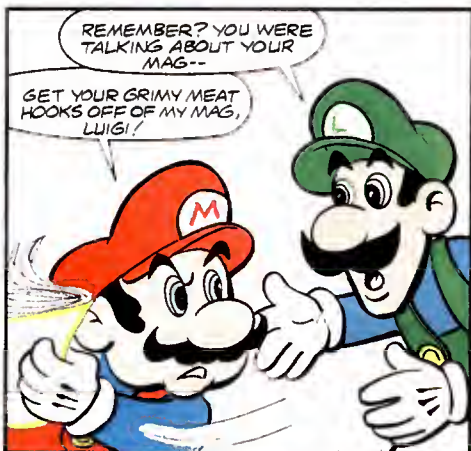
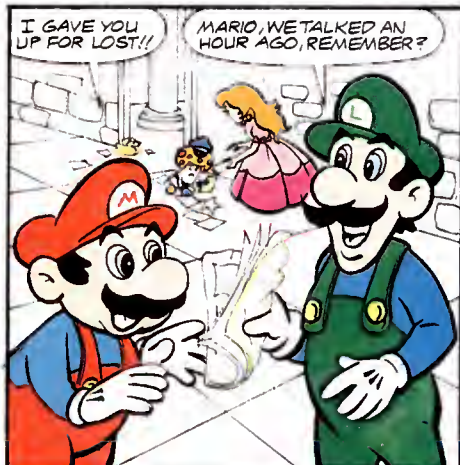
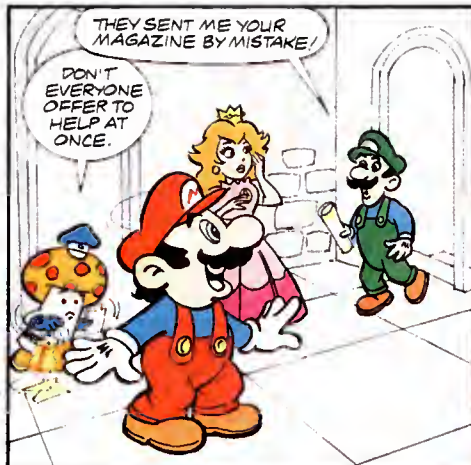




SUPER MARIO BROS.

the ADVENTURES OF DIRK DRAIN-HEAD





YOU'RE SO NICE TO FETCH MY MAGAZINE.

ACTUALLY, I HAD PLANNED ON SPENDING THE AFTERNOON FLOSSING MY TEETH.

WHILE YOU'RE AT IT, PICK UP A BOTTLE OF TUMMY-TIME FOR ME!

NOT HERE.

HEY, PRINCESS. BE A PAL AND SCARE ME UP SOME SODA AND CHIPS, WILL YA?!

LIFE IS GOOD.

HELP YOUR USELESS BROTHER GET MY "BARONESS BLUE BLOOD"!

I'M GOING TO GET PLAQUE... I JUST KNOW IT.

NOW WE HAVE TO GO TO WORLD 5-1

PIECE OF CAKE!

WORLD 5-1? LH-OH!

MULCH CITY!!

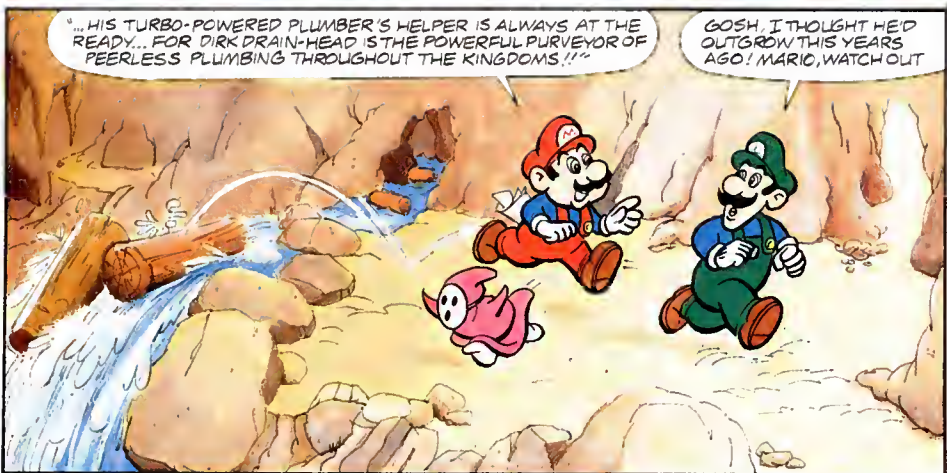
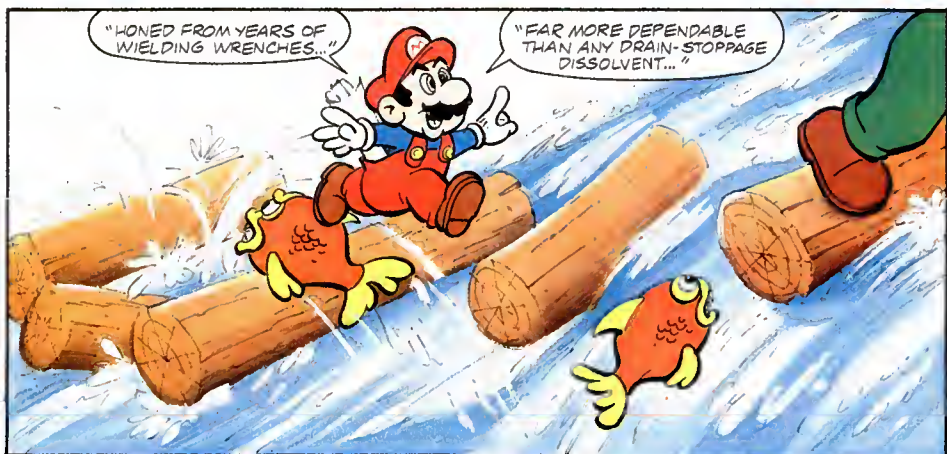
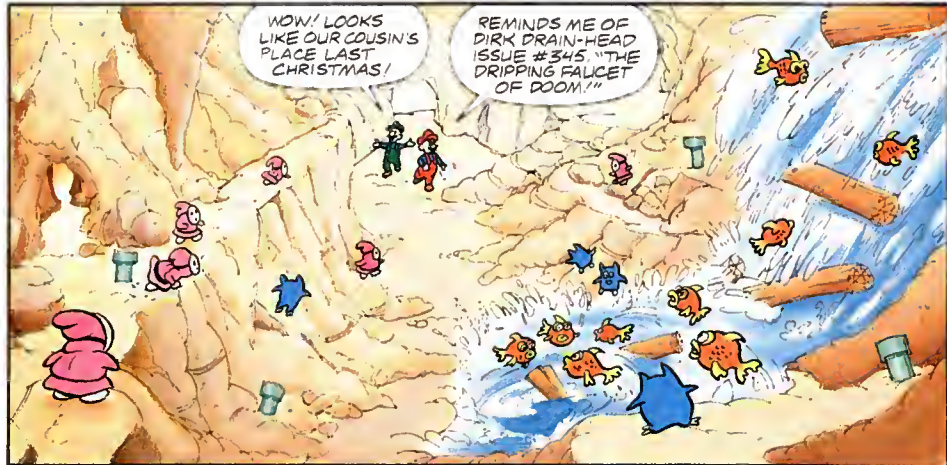
PIECE OF CAKE?! ARE YOU CRAZY?! THAT PLACE IS A BATTLEFIELD!

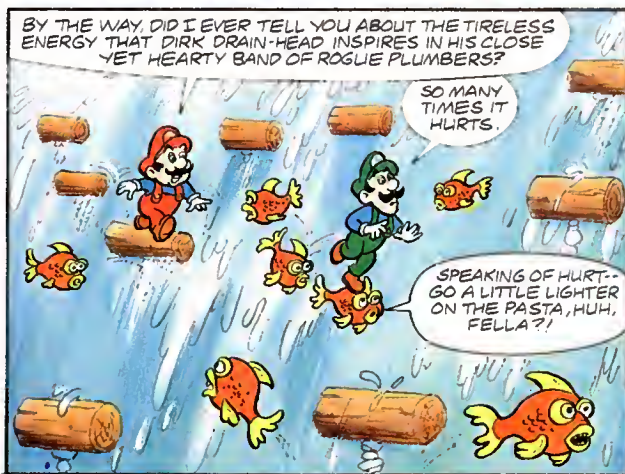
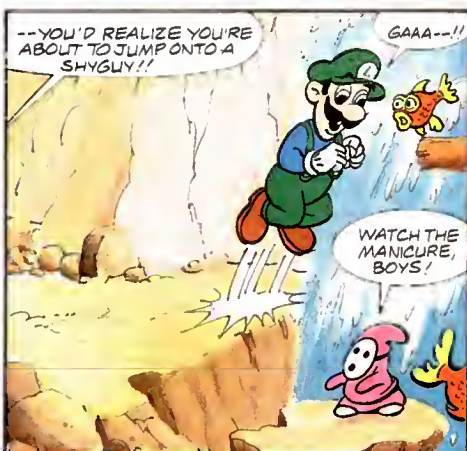
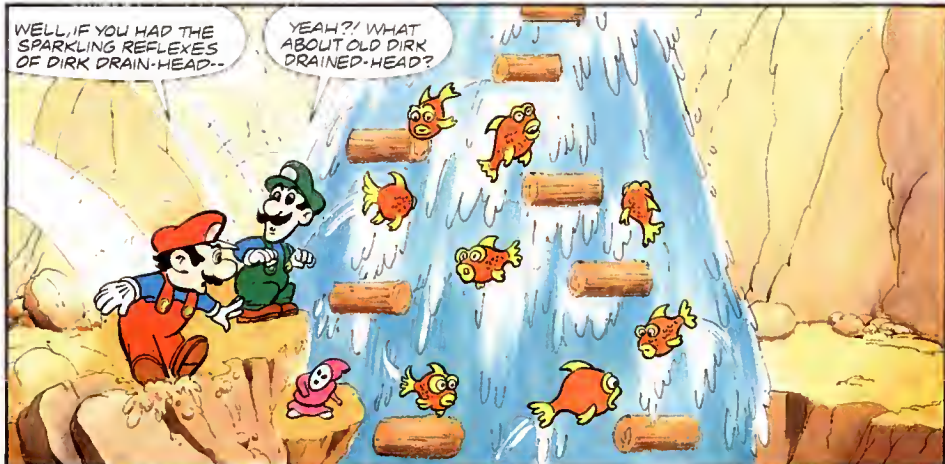
I'M JUST SAYING I HAD A PIECE OF CAKE LAST TIME I WAS IN WORLD 5-1.

IT WAS CHOCOLATE CAKE, TOO... JUST THE WAY DIRK DRAIN-HEAD LIKES IT!

WHAT SCARES ME IS THAT I'M THE BRAINS OF THIS OUTFIT.

WORLD 5-1 HAVE YOU BOUGHT YOUR... MUTUAL OF KOOPA LIFE INSURANCE YET? CALL: 555-KOOP





AAAAAAUUUGH!!!!

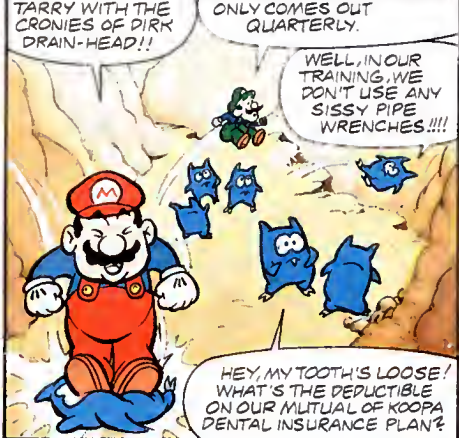
HAH! PATHETIC PLUMBERS ARE NO MATCH FOR ANCIENT NINJI TRAINING.



HA! NONE DARE TARRY WITH THE CRONIES OF DIRK DRAIN-HEAD!!

I'M GLAD THAT MAGAZINE ONLY COMES OUT QUARTERLY.

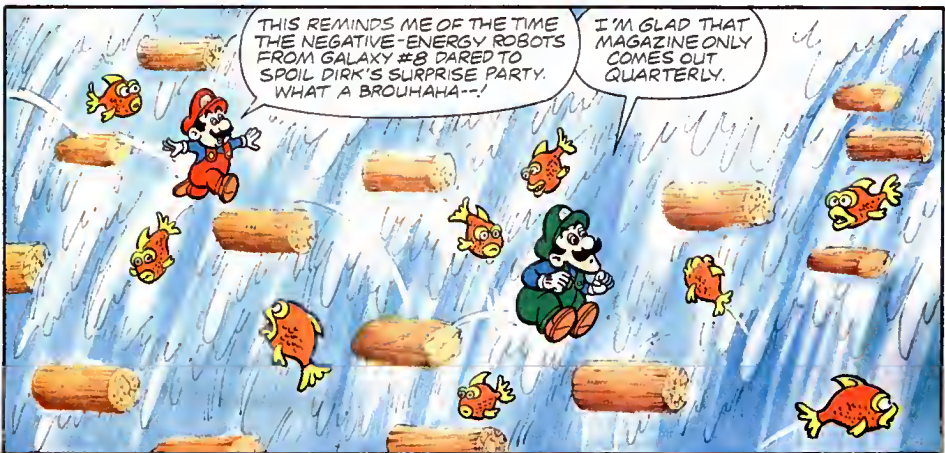
WELL, IN OUR TRAINING, WE DON'T USE ANY SISSY PIPE WRENCHES!!!!



HEY, MY TOOTH'S LOOSE! WHAT'S THE DEPUCTIBLE ON OUR MUTUAL OF KOOPA DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN?

THIS REMINDS ME OF THE TIME THE NEGATIVE-ENERGY ROBOTS FROM GALAXY #8 DARED TO SPOIL DIRK'S SURPRISE PARTY. WHAT A BROUHAHA--!

I'M GLAD THAT MAGAZINE ONLY COMES OUT QUARTERLY.



MARIO, HAVE I EVER TOLD YOU THAT YOU DRIVE ME CRAZY?

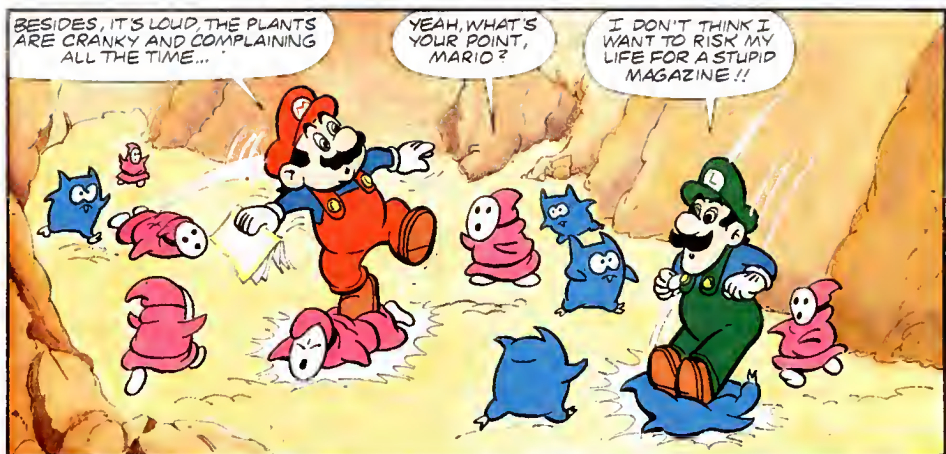
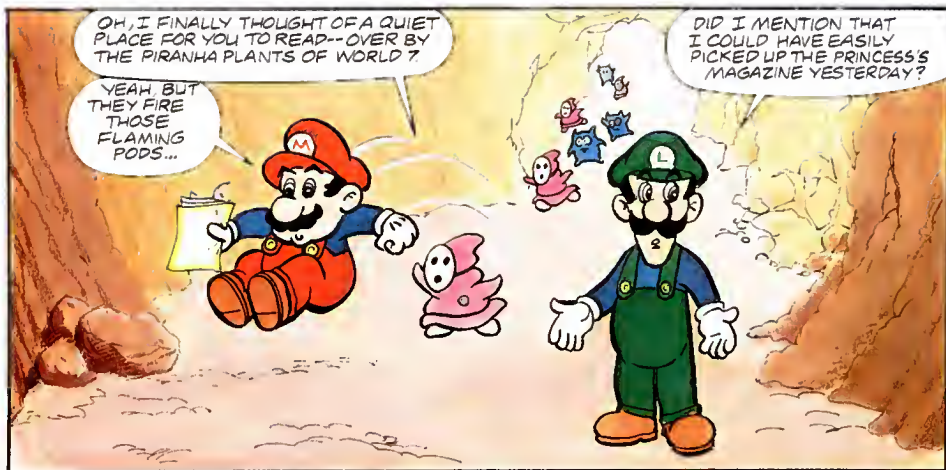
THAT'S GREAT! DIRK DRIVES HIS BROTHER CRAZY, TOO!

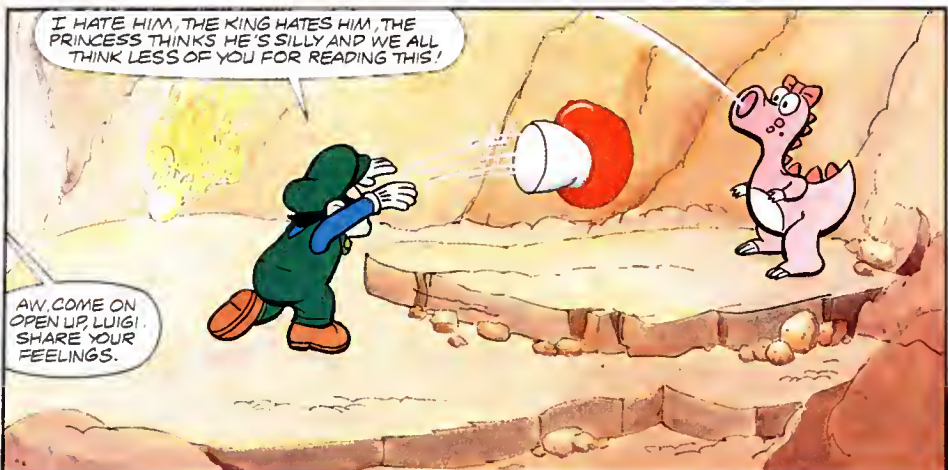
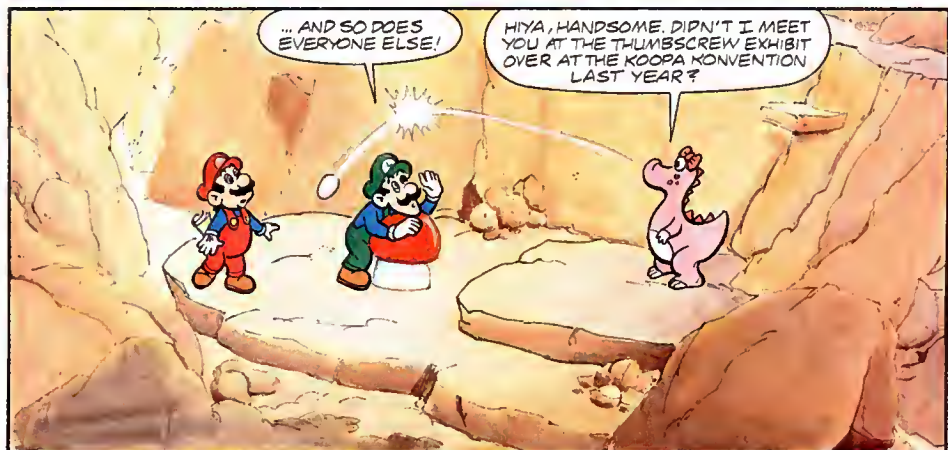
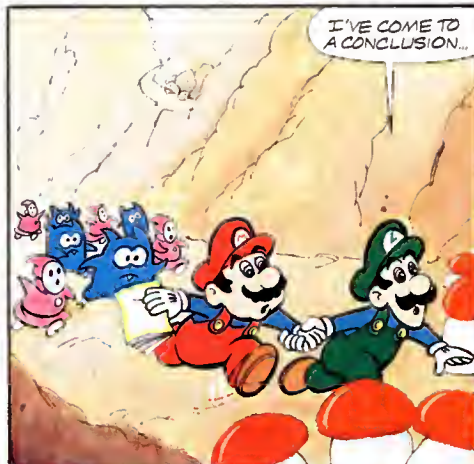


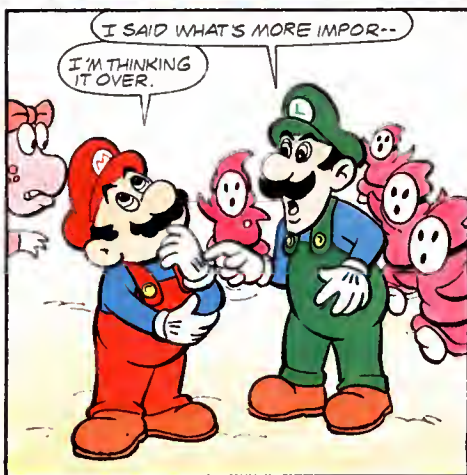
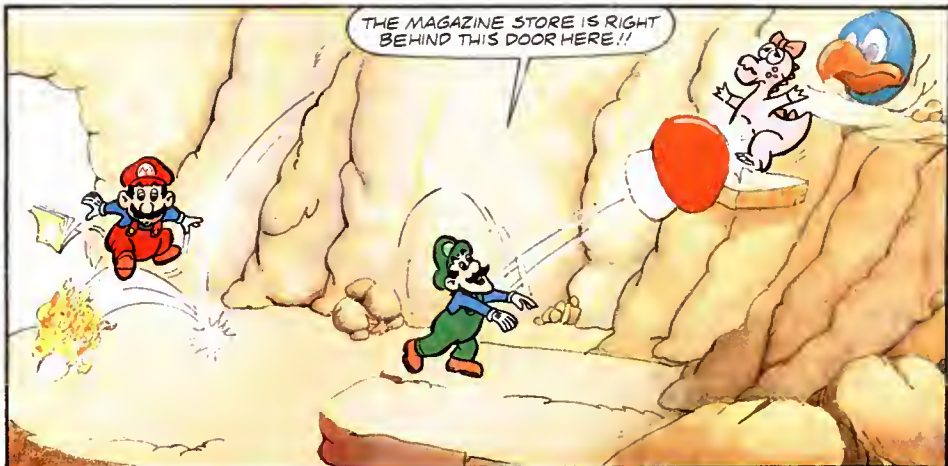
LET'S TAKE A REALITY BREAK--THERE'S A SHYGUY BEHIND YOU!!

WHAT?









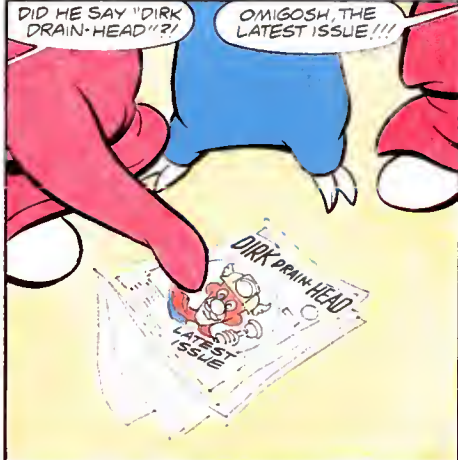
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT
LET'S LEAVE THE DIRK
DRAIN-HEAD MAG.

FINALLY-- A SHRED
OF TOTALLY UNEXPECTED
COMMON SENSE.



DID HE SAY "DIRK
DRAIN-HEAD"?!

OMIGOSH, THE
LATEST ISSUE!!!



"DIRK DRAIN-HEAD"?! WE LOOOOOOOOOVE
THAT DIRK!!!!

GIMME
THAT!

I KNOW THE PERFECT
PLACE TO READ IT ONCE
I GET IT!!

QUIT
PUSHING, YOU'RE
MESSING UP THE
HAIR!

IT'S
MINE!

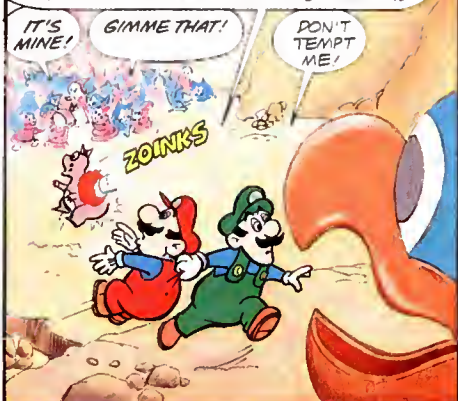


PLEASE, I CAN GET IT! REALLY, I CAN! IT'LL
TAKE JUST A SECOND!! LET ME GO GET IT!!

IT'S
MINE!

GIMME THAT!

DON'T
TEMPT
ME!



WHAT DO YOU MEAN THAT YOU JUST SOLD OUT OF
THE LATEST "BARONESS BLUE BLOOD" ISSUE?

YEAH, KOOPA JUST
BOUGHT 'EM ALL TO
LINE HIS BIRDO
CAGES.



HEY, THERE'S A RIP
IN THIS "DIRK DRAIN-
HEAD" #658!! WILL
YOU TAKE HALF PRICE?

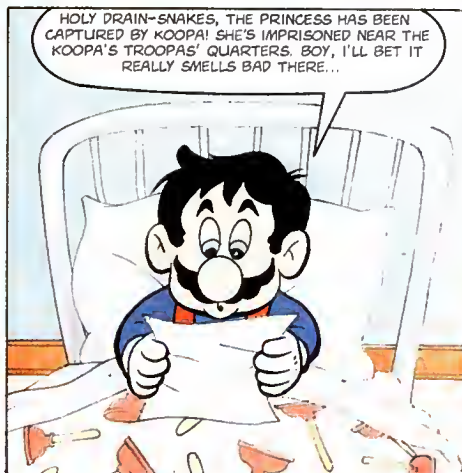


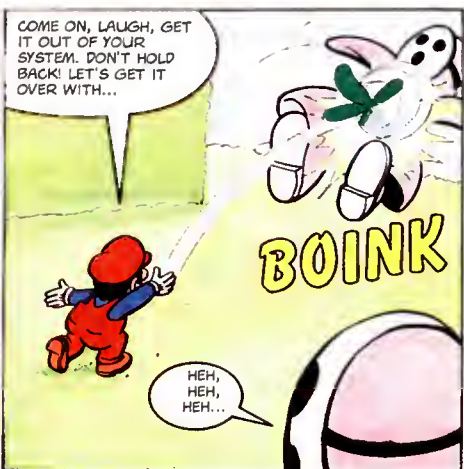
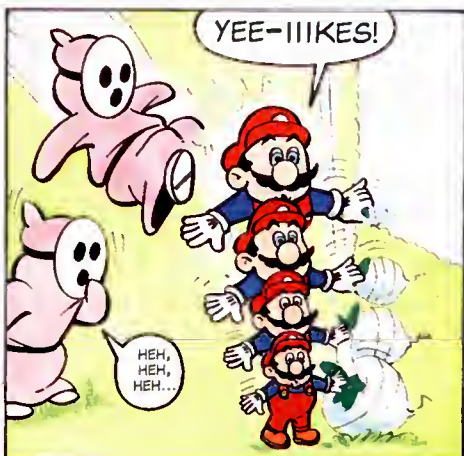
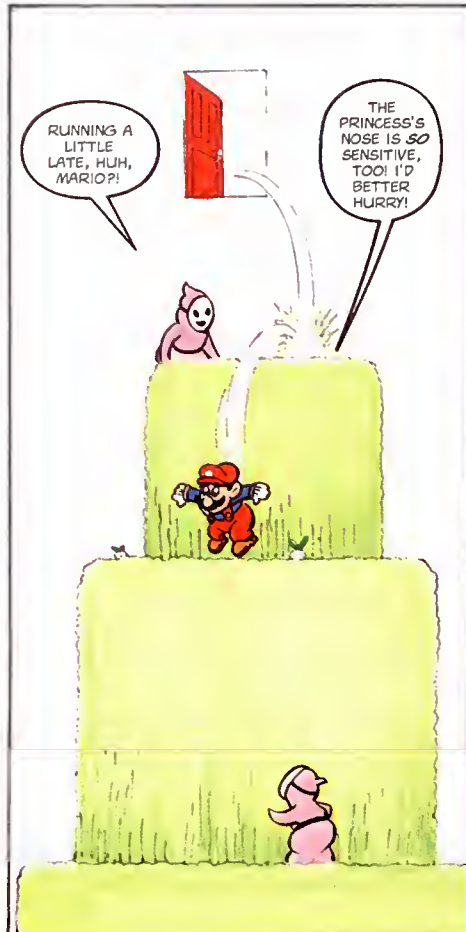
GAME
OVER

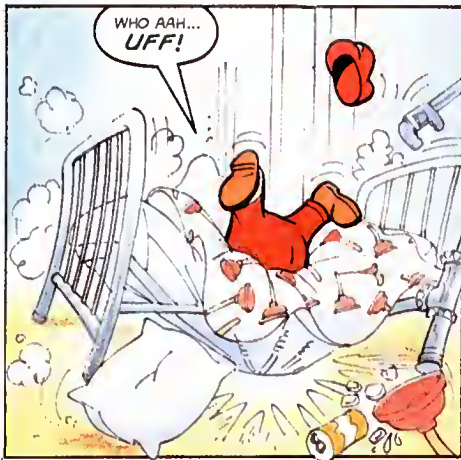
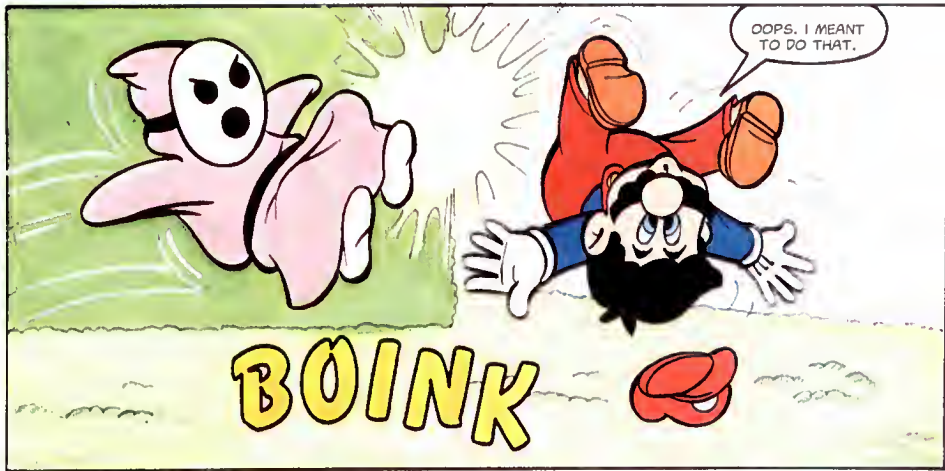
SUPER MARIO BROS.

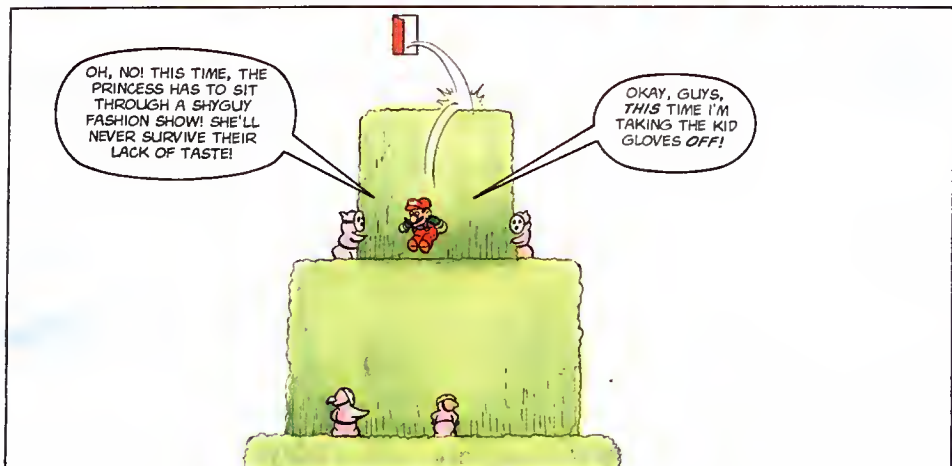
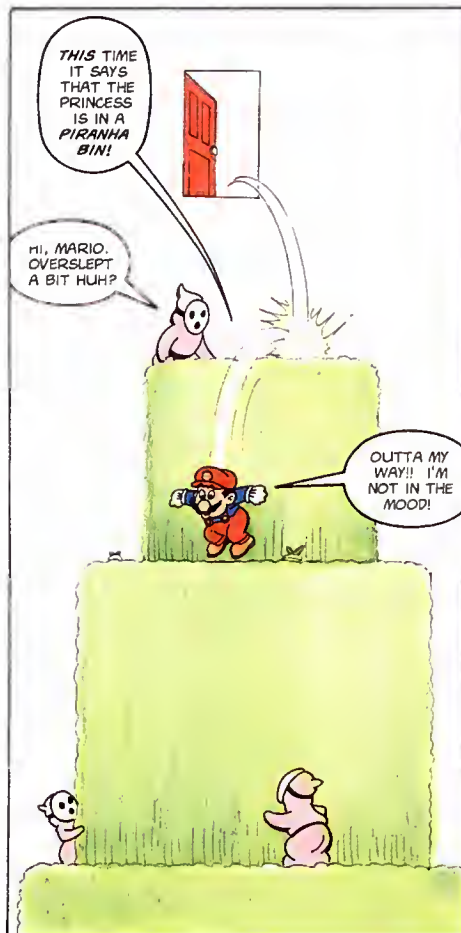
It's Plungin' Time

YOU AGAIN?

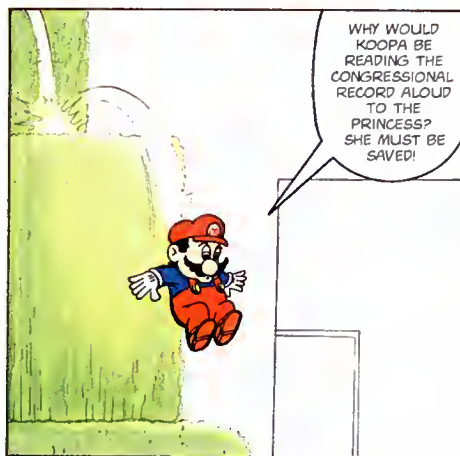
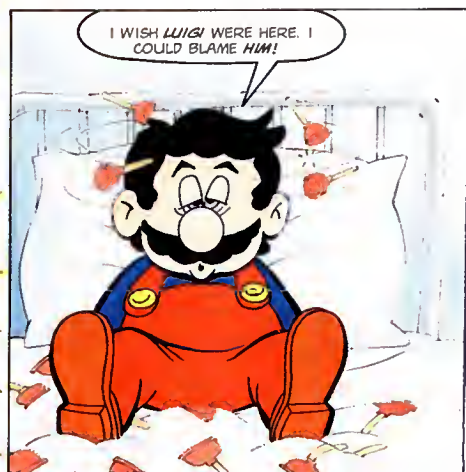








BONK



OH...*FUNGUS!* I MUST HAVE TAKEN MY STUPID PILLS TODAY.



WHAT A REALISTIC DREAM!
BUT WAIT -- THIS NOTE!!



OH, NO! THE PRINCESS IS BEING FORCED TO LISTEN TO
A DEBATE BY TWO FRYGUYS ABOUT THE NAMES FOR
THE LITTLE THINGS ON THE END OF YOUR SHOELACES!!

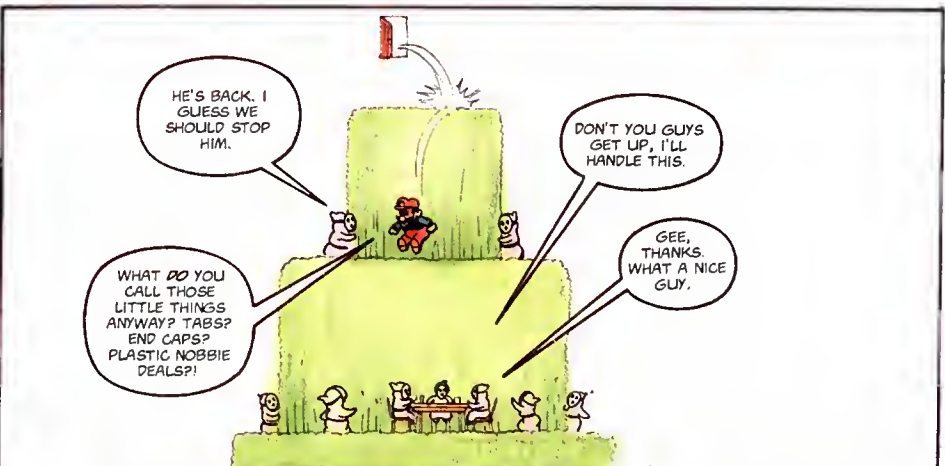


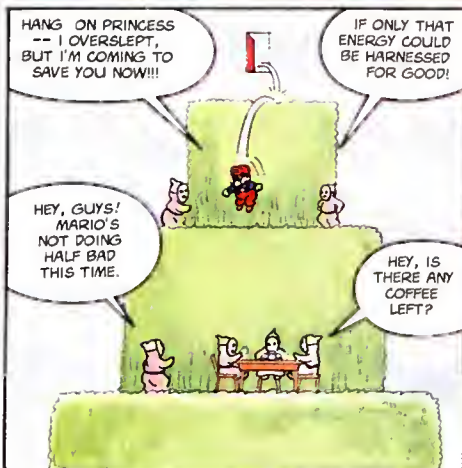
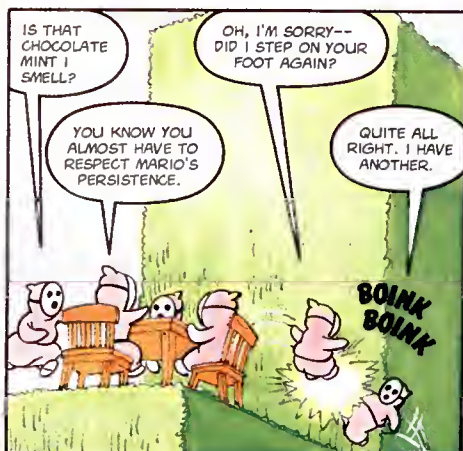
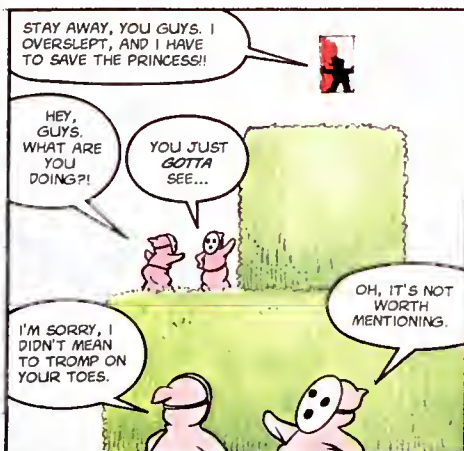
HE'S BACK. I
GUESS WE
SHOULD STOP
HIM.

WHAT *DO* YOU
CALL THOSE
LITTLE THINGS
ANYWAY? TABS?
END CAPS?
PLASTIC NOBBIE
DEALS?!

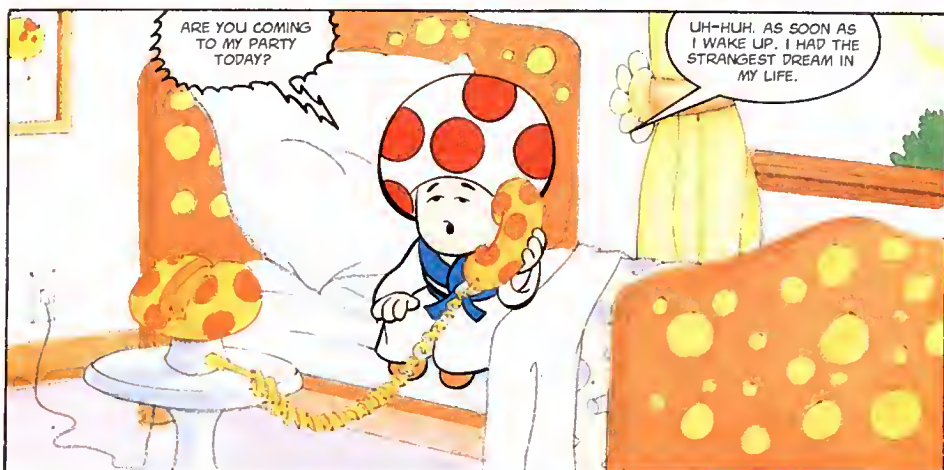
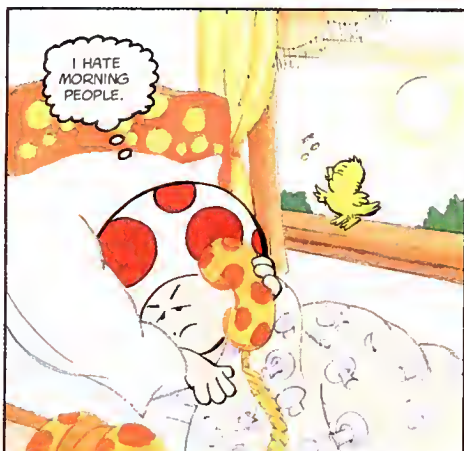
DON'T YOU GUYS
GET UP, I'LL
HANDLE THIS.

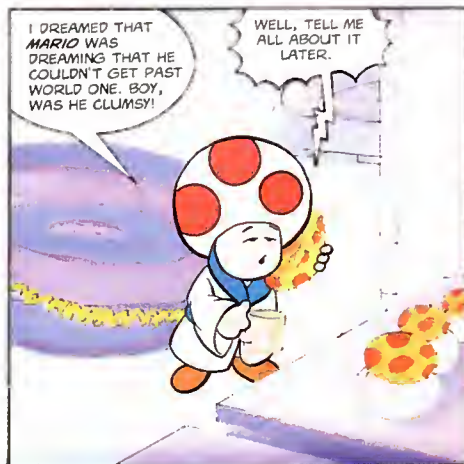
GEE,
THANKS.
WHAT A NICE
GUY.

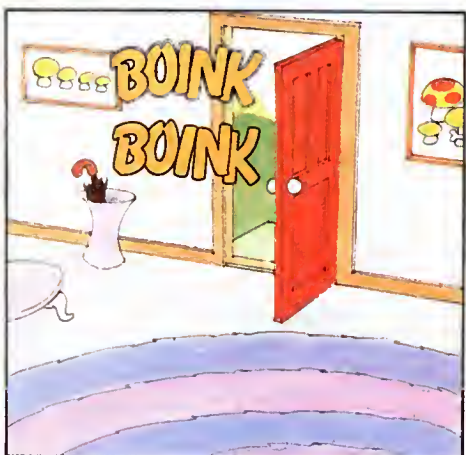




PACRINGRING









BOINK

